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CONDUCTORS SACKED, TRAM SERVICE SUSPENDED

Company takes action to stop "free rides" BUS WORKERS RESTIVE

The management of the Hong Kong Tramways Limited yesterday put an abrupt end to their workers' four-day "collect-no-fare" campaign by summarily dismissing all those conductors who had been guilty of this dereliction of duty.

President of USI enters capital

Jakarta, December 28.—Dr. Soekarno, the President of the day-old United States of Indonesia, was met by cheering crowds when he made a ceremonial entry into Jakarta formerly Batavia.

Through the Indonesian flag has been flying over the former Palace of the Dutch Governor-General since yesterday's official transfer of sovereignty to the new Indonesian state. In Soekarno is the symbol of national independence, and they welcomed him accordingly.

The President had not been in this city since August 17, 1945, when in the garden of his private residence he and Dr. Mohammad Hatta, now Prime Minister, originally proclaimed Indonesian independence.

Two silver Jakartas bearing Dr. Soekarno and his family and entourage entered the city, dropping leaders before landing at Kemoran Airport.

Appeals for unity

The 49-year-old President wore a white uniform with gold buttons, black tie and black velvet. Mrs. Soekarno, slim and youthful, had a multi-colored sarong with a blue face shawl. Addressing 250,000 people, President Soekarno appealed for unity among Indonesians and added that without it the ideals for which they had striven and which they had still to achieve could not be achieved.

If unity was maintained, Dutch New Guinea (Irian) would undoubtedly be ours by 1952. Under the Netherlands-Indonesian Union round-table conference agreement, New Guinea will remain under Dutch sovereignty pending a Netherlands-Indonesian conference in the next 12 months. Reuter.

JAP WAR CRIMINALS GRANTED AMNESTY

Tokyo, December 28.

Forty-five Japanese war criminals were released from Sugamo prison in Tokyo today after the Christmas amnesty granted by General MacArthur.

Pallid, unshaven and wearing clumsy Japanese army khaki and brown jack-boots, the criminals filed out under an American guard to waiting relatives and sweethearts.

As the marchers halted before a battery of cameramen, a big American captain shouted: "Look happy, show your teeth!"

Japanese Foreign Office officials told the criminals with food and money, and offers of transport to homes in many parts of Japan. Reuter.

Weather

At 0000 GMT (8 p.m. HKST) a small anti-cyclone over the Eastern Sea is moving East. A small depression over the Philippines and Cebu, China is moving West.

Today's Forecast: Moderate or fresh NE winds. Fair.

Yesterday's Weather: Maximum 80.1, minimum 67.0.

Maximum 77.0, minimum 64.0.

Minimum 60.0, maximum 74.0.

Wind direction: 100-120 knots.

Wind force: 10-12 knots.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Hong Kong.

Low: 10:00 a.m.

High: 10:00 a.m.

Low: 10:00 a.m.

High: 10:00 a.m.

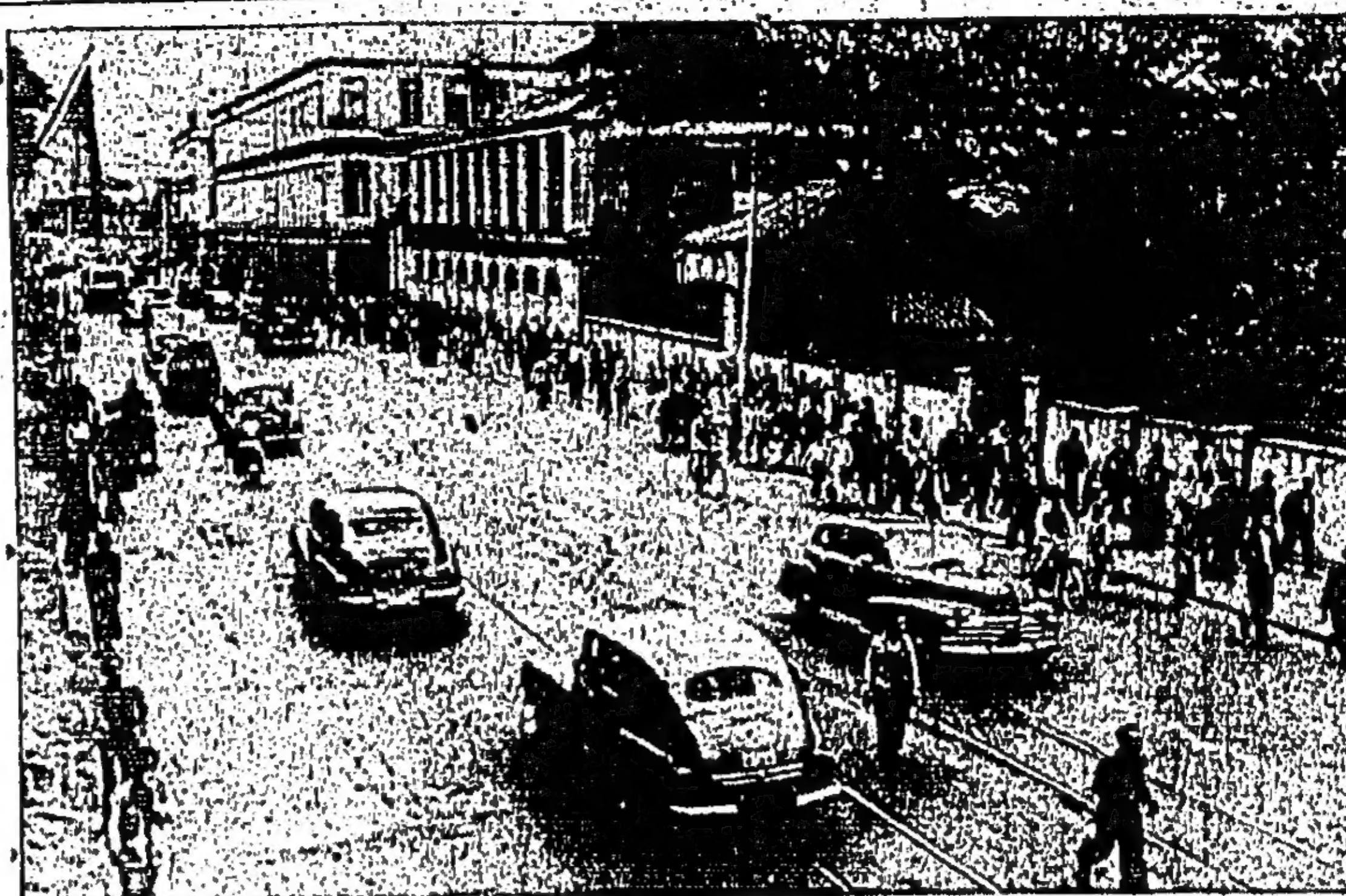
Low: 10:00 a.m.

High: 10:00 a.m.

Low: 10:00 a.m.

High: 10:00 a.m.

REMINISCENT OF OCCUPATION DAYS



Withdrawal of the trams by the company yesterday flung the burden of transporting workers to and from office on the limited facilities of buses and taxis. Unable to fight their way on to buses, workers walked to office and back home. Shown here are workers streaming back home yesterday afternoon.—"China Mail" Photo.

Air, sea search for Spitfire pilot in Mirs Bay

Royal Air Force aircraft, British warships, police speed boats and an American merchantman joined in a fruitless seven-hour air and sea search for a missing RAF pilot yesterday. His identity was not disclosed.

The aircraft and vessels searched the 200-square mile Mirs Bay area, North East of Hong Kong from 11 a.m. until dusk for the pilot who was forced to bale out when the engine of his Spitfire failed.

The search will be continued today, it was officially stated last night.

The pilot was taking the Spitfire out on a routine exercise flight when the incident happened. Other Spitfires joined the search.

Request to merchantman

The destroyer it was learned, also requested the ss. Flying Arrow, approaching Hong Kong to assist and to report whether any plane wreckage had been observed.

Mr. David Jones, master of the Flying Arrow, replied that he had not seen any. He kept watch for any signs of the missing pilot.

Mr. Jones told the "China Mail" last night that he saw at least six RAF aircraft searching the sea about five miles from Hong Kong at about noon.

Trial of Jap germ warfare experts

London, December 28. Japanese aircraft scattered plague fleas south of Shanghai during the war, according to one of the 12 Japanese germ warfare experts being tried by a Soviet military court in the USSR-Manchurian border town of Khabarovsk, said a Tass message.

The prisoner, Lieutenant-General Riichi Kajitaka, of the Japanese Army Medical Corps, said that the "experiment proved effective."

Another prisoner, Takasaka Takemichi, a Lieutenant-General of the Medical Services, said that an experimental unit produced bacteria for germ warfare "mainly against the Soviet Union."

It had branches along the Soviet frontier so that "in case of a war between Japan and the Soviet Union" it could infect cattle and release them behind the Soviet lines.—Reuter.

FOREIGN BANKS IN JAPAN

Tokyo, December 28. The Japanese Government today authorized ten foreign banks now operating in Japan to engage in domestic banking business. They were permitted to deal directly with Japanese and will operate under Japanese regulations.

The names of the ten banks are: The Bank of China, Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, The Mercantile Bank of India, Bank of America, Chase National Bank, National City Bank of New York, the Bank of India, Netherlands Trading Society and the Netherlands India Commercial Bank.—Reuter.

Nationalist air force abandons China mainland

The Nationalist Air Force has abandoned the China mainland. The last batch of aircraft arrived at Hainan yesterday from the Chong-tu area, according to vernacular Press messages from Hainan Island.

From Hainan Island bases, Chinese fighters and bombers attacked a number of Communist targets on the Luichow Peninsula, opposite Hainan.

The targets included concentrations of boats and junks, wharves, storehouses and troop caravans. Hits on warehouses and wharves resulted in big fire.

Other bombers attacked targets at Canton, Wuchow and Swatow. Meanwhile, General Yu Han-ming announced at Hainan that there are some 20,000 Communist guerrillas in the hills on Hainan Island.

He added that the Nationalist campaign to exterminate them is in progress. He said that defences against a Communist invasion of the island have been completed and that military reinforcements will come from Taiwan.

General Yu made these statements following his return from consultations with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek at Taipei.

The Nationalist Government of China is soliciting the assistance of ECA officials in Taiwan and South Korea in concluding a Sino-Korean commercial treaty, reports Associated Press from Taipei.

The Chinese Embassy has already made preliminary negotiations with Korean authorities regarding trade and commerce between Taiwan and South Korea.

The Taiwan Provincial Government is planning to send a six-man delegation to Korea early in January to study the possibilities.

Governor K. C. Wu made it plain the forthcoming Taiwan-Korea trade will be open to private merchants who previously have been denied commerce.

If the Korean negotiations are successful, trade relations with Japan and the Philippines and Indonesia may be established later.

Taiwan is offering to sell salt, sugar, paper and caustic soda to Korea.

Chiang Kai-shek's prolonged stay at Sun Moon Lake in Central Taiwan since Christmas Eve gives rise to speculation that an important decision might be made regarding Nationalist China's future course.

Observers point out that prior to a momentous decision, Chiang usually takes time off for meditation in a quiet place.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH RETURNS TO LONDON

Valletta, December 28.

Princess Elizabeth left for London today in a Viking plane.

The King's Flight after spending five weeks in Malta with the Duke of Edinburgh, whose ship was stationed here.—Reuter.

CAT planes fly silver from PI to Taiwan

Manila, December 28.

Hundreds of boxes of Chinese Nationalist silver coins were being loaded aboard transport planes of Major-General Claire Chen-nault's Civil Air Transport today for transfer to Taipei.

A reliable source said there are about 12 CAT planes which will be making shuttle flights to and from Taipei to carry away the precious loads. It is understood each plane loads 70 boxes of coins each weighing 60 kilograms.

It is reliably learned that there is a total of about 5,000 boxes of coins which arrived here by ship from the United States a few weeks ago. It is estimated the value of the coins is about \$60,000,000.

An informed source estimated it would take five days to finish the ferrying job. The planes began to arrive here late yesterday.—United Press.

POLICE CHIEF SHOT IN BATANGAS

Manila, December 28.

The Chief of Police of Batangas, the Batangas home-town of the unsuccessful Nationalist presidential candidate, Dr. Jose P. Laurel, was killed by unknown persons last night.

Chief Marcelino Medina was the third police head of Batangas to die violently since the liberation. He was moved down by fire from automatic weapons as he sat in a car.

A 17-year-old girl nearby was wounded by a stray bullet.

No clue as to the assailants' identities or the motives have been found. Mr. Medina was known to be a Guirinalista Liberal.

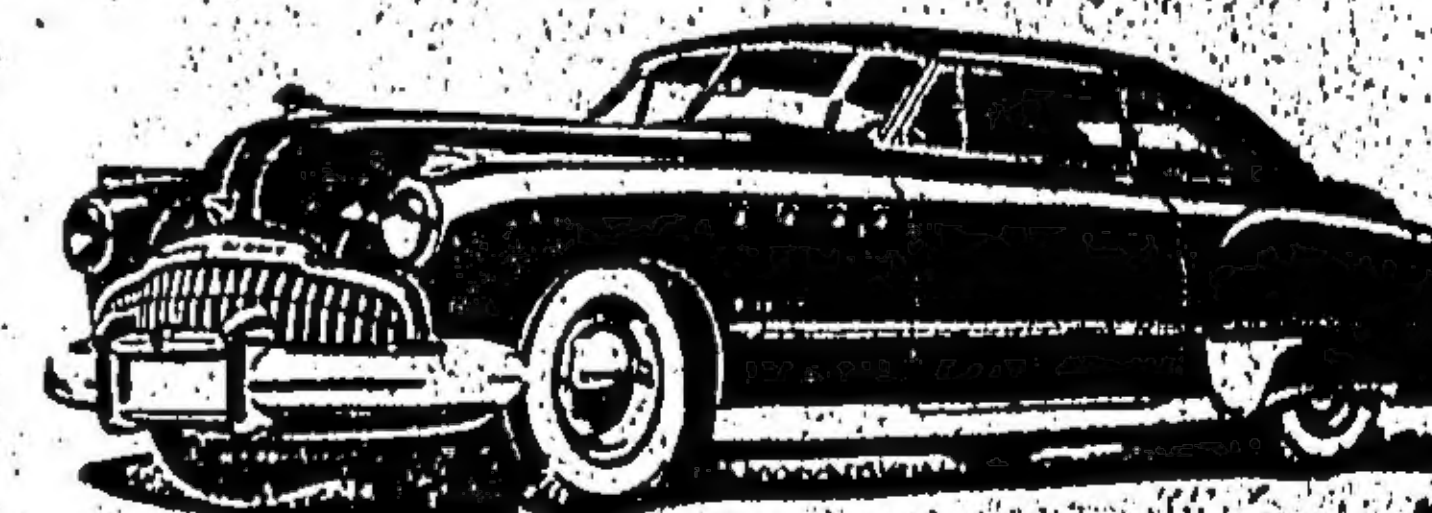
The Mayor of Batangas had imposed a curfew.—United Press.

TRAGIC MISTAKE IN MALAYA

Singapore, December 28.

One British private was killed and one officer and another private were injured when a patrol of the Green Howards Regiment and a Gurkha patrol clashed near Mantakab, in Pahang, last night after mistaking each other's party for guerrillas.—Reuter.

Ride Buick and you Ride a WINNER!



LOOK THIS EYE-FILLING SMOOTHIE OVER AND MAKE NOTE OF THE HAPPY NEWS:

It's the Buick Super Convertible — and you can have it in any of four body types, with that sensational engineering triumph, Dynaflow Drive.

FLY PAST IN THE BUICK CONVERTIBLE—

The Glamorous Way to go places!

Call and inspect at our service station
China International Motors Ltd.
123, Bank of China Bldg., 110, Robinson Rd.
Telephone 21448, 21449, 21450, 21451

On Other Pages

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- Page 4 Barclay's Bridge
- Page 5 Foreigners edged out in China
- Page 6 U. S. backing for Indonesia
- Page 7 Engineering page
- Page 8 Yugoslav's relations with West
- Page 9 U. S. to supply arms aid in February
- Page 10 Chinese race against time
- Page 11 Finance and Commerce
- Page 12 Air Shipping movements
- Page 13 Sports

The Ministers are: Taydi Atossi (Justice), Ethallia Asyoum (Health), Sami Kabbara (Industry), Akram Kawrani (Defense), Hani Sezzani (Education), Mohammed Mobarak (Public Works), Abdul Baki Nizamuddin (Agriculture), Marouf Dawallab (Economy)—Abdul Rahman Azzi (Finance).

The Foreign Minister has not been named.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

20 Words \$2 for 1 insertion
\$1 for every additional insertion
10 cents every additional word per insertion
 (Alternate Insertions 10% Extra)

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, PERSONAL \$5 per insertion
 of 20 words. 25 cents every additional word per insertion.

Classified Advertisements, accepted up to 8 p.m. for publication in the following day's paper.

Replies for the Following Box Nos. are awaiting collection.

Replies will be forwarded to the Advertiser if requested on the original form which should bear their names and addresses.

A suitable announcement will be inserted Free of Charge if Advertiser's requirements are satisfactorily answered.

POSITION WANTED

TRANSLATOR suitable for many posts. Salary \$300 monthly. Reply Box 312 "China Mail".

WANTED KNOWN

EMBROIDERING initials, Monograms on garments, handkerchiefs, napery & bed linens undertaken. Also stitching, smocking & all kinds of needlework. Standard workmanship. Moderate charges. The Eastern Embroidery Co., 45, Chungking Arcade, Kowloon.

WHY LIMP about with a painful corn or ingrowing toenail when a visit to Beten's expert chiropodist can put you right? Consult Beten's Beauty Salon, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

CARPETS, Rugs, Upholstery, cleaned in your own home by modern, convenient DURA-CLEAN SERVICE DURACLEAN COMPANY, DEERFIELD, ILL. U.S.A. Agent: George Lin & Co., 202 Bank of East Asia Building Tel: 24408.

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MAY BE BOOKED AT THE
 SWINDON BOOK STORE, 24
 NATHAN ROAD, TEL. 59327.

CARPETS & RUGS—Genuine Peking and Tibetan, lovely designs and colorings, various sizes. Come and inspect at The China Rug Co., Kowloon Building, 4th Floor (Opposite Hong Kong Hotel) Queen's Road, Central.

RUGS Peking Art Rug Co., Wholesale & Retail, Room 8-9, Lucky Apartment Corner of Hankow & Peking Road, Kowloon.

DANCING LESSONS

BALLROOM DANCING—"Made Easy" Advanced Variations taught. "Specialities" Rumba, Samba, Tango, Jitterbug (Live). Enquiries (1-3 P.M.)—Tony Hudson, 512, China Building.

TUITION GIVEN

DESIGN and make your own dresses with a French cut. Qualified young lady with experience in designing and cutting, wishes to give lessons at her residence. Fees very moderate. Also dress-making orders taken. Write Box No. 511 "China Mail".

WANTED TO BUY

EUROPEAN wishes to purchase single or pair of thoroughbred Blenheim Kittens reply c/o Box 513 "China Mail".

FOR SALE

BEAUTIFUL situated building site overlooking Repulse Bay Beach area approx. 30,000 sq. ft. with approach road and formations completed ready for erection for two residences further particulars Mr. Gee Tel. 58800.

WESTON EXPOSURE METERS—Model "Master II" with leather case HK\$125.00, Model "Gadet" with leather case HK\$105.00. Available at the Filmo Depot, 3rd floor, Marina House, 17/19 Queen's Road C, Telephone 32153.

TAMARA MAY, Room 803, Peninsula Hotel, Just Received Consignment Attractive Blouses and Skirts. Also in stock Evening Gowns, Cocktail and Day Dresses, Coat Suits, Blazer Gold and Silver Evening Bags and Belts, Costume Jewellery. All Reasonably Priced.

JOIN THE AMATEUR CINEMA LEAGUE OF NEW YORK, and receive the "Movie Maker" Magazine, monthly Membership applications taken at the Filmo Depot, 3rd floor, Marina House, 17/19 Queen's Road C, Telephone 32153.

HONG KONG FILM AND THEATRE NEWS at \$1.00 per copy. Obtainable at Leading Book Stores, Newspaper Sellers, Cinema and "China Mail" Office.

FOR SALE

SCRIBBLING PAD—100 pages at 50 cents each. On sale at China Mail Office, Windsor House, Tel. 52812.

CHINA MAIL PICTORIAL (Revised edition) at \$3.00 per copy. Obtainable at all Leading Book Stores and "China Mail" Office.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all owners and prospective owners of Pilot Radio! Your continued support since 1908, over 41 years, makes possible the fine Pilot receivers today. Why not give your loved ones the "Gift that Endures"—Pilot Radio. Continental Agencies.

HONG KONG DIRECTORY (1949 edition) containing Hong List, Govt. Offices, Hospitals, Schools, Churches, Institutes, Consulates, Services, Clubs, Agencies, Who's Who, Residences. It's the most up-to-date and most complete of all business directories in the Colony. NOW ON SALE at all leading book shops and "China Mail" Office.

ASBESTOS CEMENT PRESSURE PIPES for Water, Oil and Gas. Asbestos Cement Flat and Corrugated Sheets.

OURITE S.P.A. 24, VIAD CAVANA, TRIESTE ITALY. Cabine OURITE-TRIESTE.

LAMBERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors & Appraisers, Pedder Building, Telephone No. 20224.

NOTICE

USED CHRISTMAS CARDS

On behalf of children in Hong Kong's many orphanages, and homes the Social Welfare Office would be happy to receive used Christmas and New Year Cards for making up into scrap books, pictures etc.

By kind permission of the Post Master General packages of these cards may be sent, postage free, if they are marked "Used Christmas Cards" on the top left hand corner and are left open at each end.

Will anyone who would like to give away his cards kindly forward these to the Social Welfare Office, Fire Brigade Building, preferably well before Chinese New Year which falls on February 17th, 1950?

J. C. McDONALL,
 Social Welfare Officer.



ATTENTION TO SNUFF-BOTTLE

Collectors & Dealers
 Large quantity of stock for sale, and supplies of stoppers, spoons, etc.

Business hours:

Weekdays: 10-12 a.m., 3-7 p.m.

Sundays: 12-5 p.m.

DUNT KING

171, Gloucester Road, Opposite Wanchai Ferry.

HARRIMAN REALTY CO., LTD.

Real Estate Brokers and Valuers

FOR SALE AND TO LET.

Let us know your requirements. We have houses and land and office space.

Telegrams: "Harriman"
 Tel: 21225

MARINE DEPARTMENT

TENDERS FOR INSTALLING EQUIPMENT AT WAGLAN LIGHTHOUSE

It is hereby notified that sealed tenders in triplicate for the installation of the New Diaphone Fog Signal and lighting equipment at Waglan Lighthouse will be received at the office of the Chairman of the Tender Board, Colonial Secretariat, before noon on Friday, January 13, 1950.

Contract will include the transport and landing of all machinery, engines, compressors, generators and erecting on site together with the fitting of connecting pipes to air, oil and water tanks.

Details may be obtained from the Supt. of Light, Marine Department.

Covers should be clearly marked Tenders for Installing Equipment at Waglan Lighthouse. Completion of the installation to be made by 7th February, 1950. Tenders must deposit the sum of \$500 with the Treasury as a guarantee of their bona fides.

The receipt of this deposit to be submitted with the sealed tenders. The deposit will be forfeited to the Hong Kong Government if the successful tenderers fail to carry out the terms of the contract.

Unsuccessful tenders will have their deposit returned.

Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

J. JOLLY,
 Director of Marine

December 23, 1949

POLICE NOTICE

Attention is invited to the Public Entertainments Ordinance which defines a "public entertainment" as an entertainment to which the public have access whether on payment or not.

Buildings & Other Premises.

1. No public entertainment shall be given except in a building or other premises, licensed for a class of entertainment for which it is suitable. In addition to buildings and other premises regularly used for public entertainments, buildings and other premises used for casual entertainment must also be licensed even if only on one occasion.

2. No public entertainment may be given except in a building or other premises licensed for the purpose and must be permitted by separate application made by the producer thereof.

3. A building or other premises licensed for a particular class or classes of entertainment shall not be used for another class of entertainment without permission.

4. Permits to cover a period will only be granted to licensees who are themselves producers of regular entertainments. Such permits will not include entertainments sponsored or produced by others which require a separate permit to be obtained and produced by such sponsors or producers before the licensee allows the entertainment to take place.

5. All other persons whether licensees who hire their premises or licensees who both produce themselves and hire to others must apply for permission on each casual occasion on their own behalf and require the persons to whom they hire their licensed building or other premises to produce a permit for which such hirers have themselves made application.

6. The public is warned that if an entertainment fails under the definition the purpose, however worthy, be it charity, uplift or amusement, does not affect the necessity to obtain a licence. The public is also warned that possession of a liquor licence does not cover public entertainment.

Possession of forged notes

Found to have 58 forged Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank one dollar notes on his person in Spring Garden Lane on October 6, Tiu Shu-chan, aged 18, appeared before Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central yesterday charged with possession of forged notes. He was committed for trial in the Criminal Sessions.

Detective Sub-Inspector C. Pope said that on information received, Detective Police Constable 1110, Lai Cheung, arrested the defendant outside the lavatory at Spring Garden Lane at about 10 a.m. on October 6. On being searched at the Police Station 27 one dollar notes were found in his left shoe, 30 in his right shoe, one in his trouser pocket and HK\$1.80 cents in another pocket.

A clerk from the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank gave expert evidence in Court yesterday and said that 58 of the one dollar notes were forged. The notes were made of different paper and the portrait and the bank's name on each note were obscure.

Tiu said that he had been given the notes by a Lee Ho to carry. Both he and Lee went into the lavatory at Spring Garden Lane on that day. On leaving he was arrested by the detective.

Tiu claimed that he had told the detective at the time of his arrest that the notes had been given by Lee and pointed to Lee who was nearby. The defendant claimed that the detective had said that as he (Tiu) possessed the notes he was under arrest and the other fellow did not matter.

When asked why he placed the notes in his shoes the defendant said that he had been told to do so by Lee as the money might be picked from his pockets while travelling in a train.

NOTICE

SWEDISH FLAGGED VESSEL "MIRAMAR"

Tenders are invited for the purchase of the above-named vessel of

1555 tons gross
 856 tons nett
 Length 287' 11"
 Loaded Draft 16' 81"
 Speed about 104 knots
 on a daily consumption of 91 tons best coal.

As she lies anchored at Kowloon Bay in Hong Kong Harbour.

Tenders will be received up to Noon on Thursday, the 12th January, 1950.

If required, further particulars of the vessel may be obtained from the Undersigned.

We, as Agents for the owners of the "MIRAMAR" do not bind ourselves to accept the highest or any tender submitted.

GILMAN & CO. LTD.,
 Insurance Dept.

As Agents.

4a, Des Voeux Road Central,
 3rd floor.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Annual Race Meeting 1950
 Special Cash Sweep

Pearce Memorial Cup

The race for the Pearce Memorial Cup will be run at 3.30 p.m. on the third day of the meeting, Tuesday, 17th January 1950.

Tickets for the sweep at \$2.—each may be purchased at the Office of the Treasurers, 1st Floor Telephone House, and also at the Club's Branch Office, No. 382 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Over 250,000 tickets have been disposed of to date.

By Order,
 S. A. SLEAP,
 Secretary.

Hong Kong, Dec. 20, 1949.

ROYDEN HOUSE

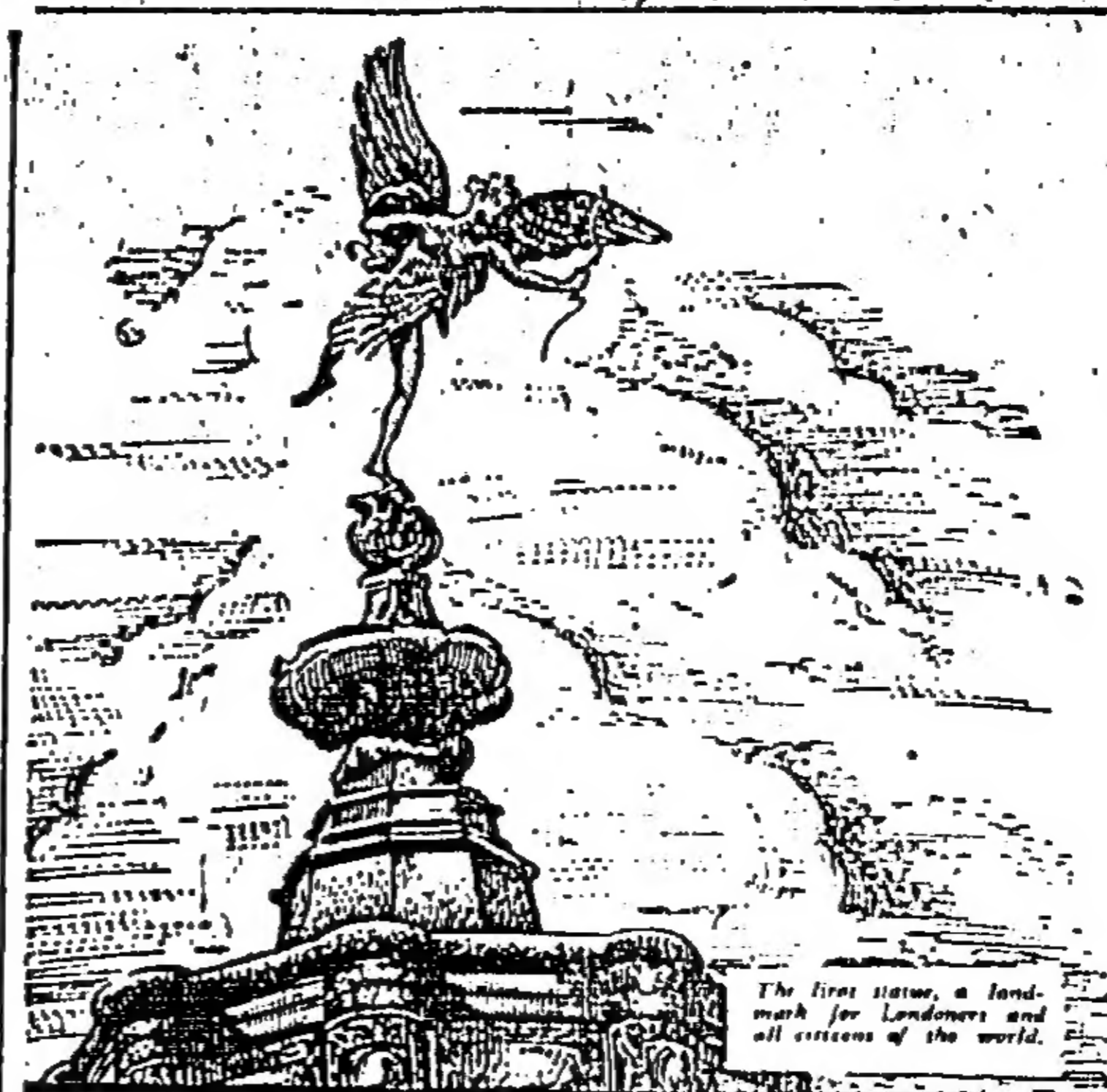
COEDUCATION DALTON PLAN

NEXT TERM—JAN. 9th.

A few vacancies in some classes.

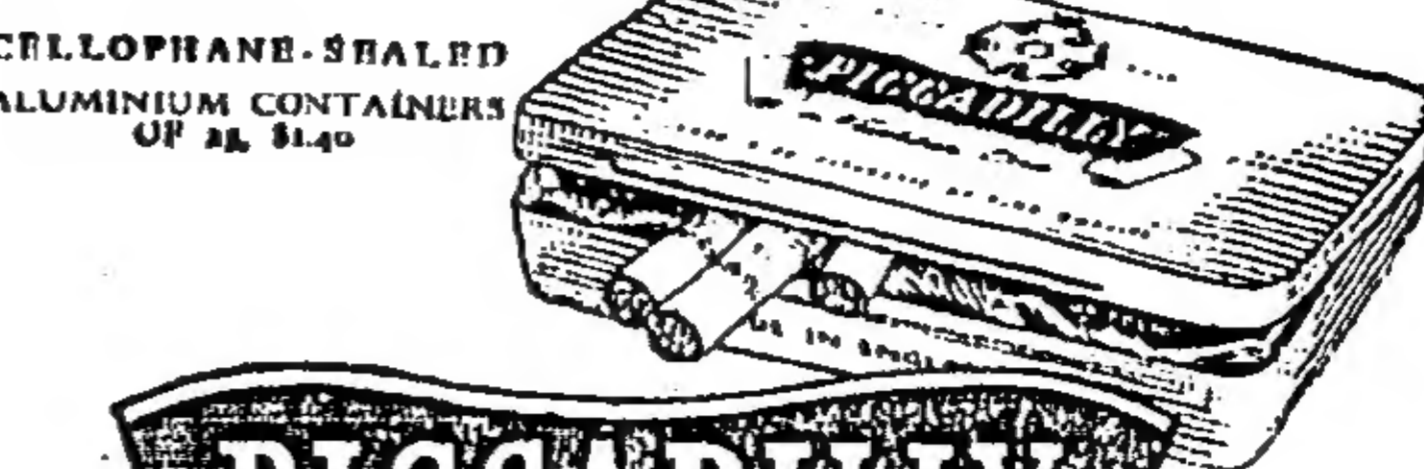
Classifying test on January 4 at 8.30 a.m.

Apply: 53, Robinson Road.



Britain's No. 1 Cigarette

Piccadilly No. 1—in Britain as famous as London's most distinguished thoroughfare, these fine quality Virginia cigarettes reach you factory-fresh from the House of Carreras.



Sole Agents:
DODWELL & CO., LTD.

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HOLDERS OF GOVERNMENT RATION CARDS

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The Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd.

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will be available for collection from

TUESDAY, 3rd JANUARY, 1950.

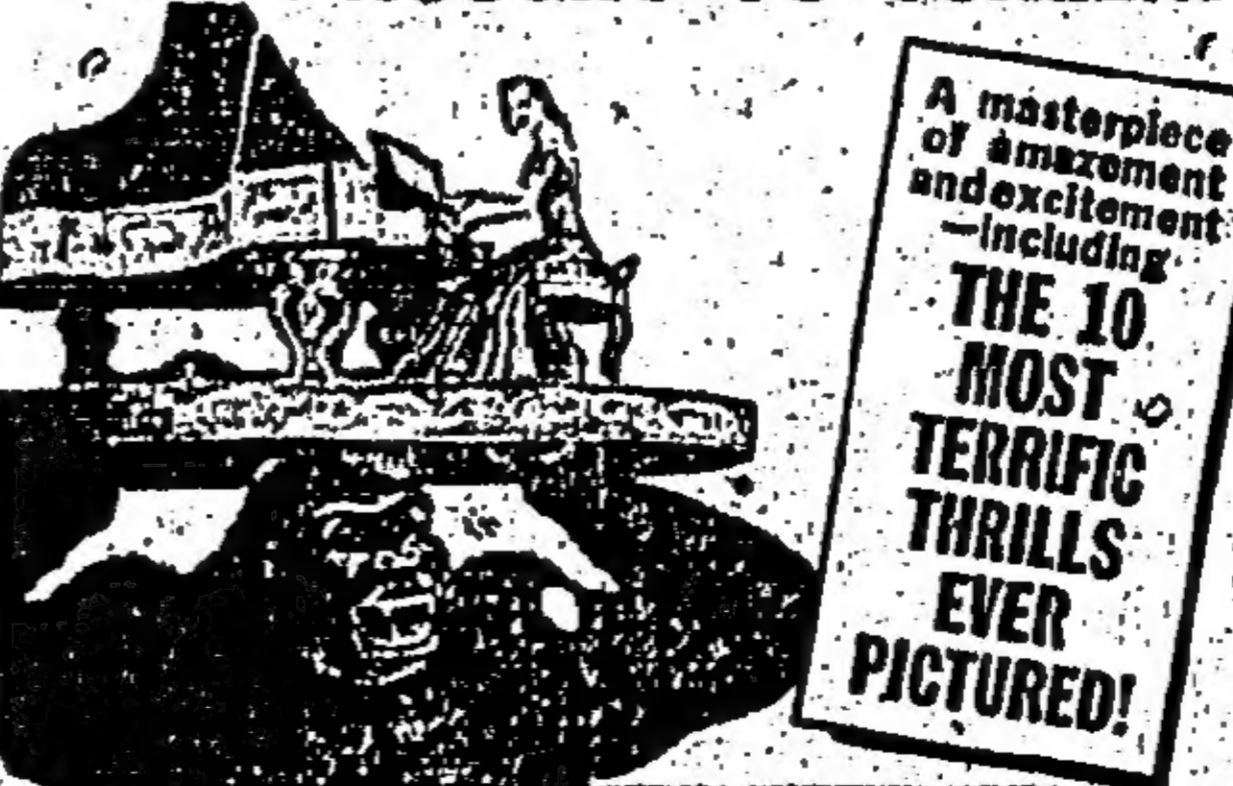
BUTTER (fresh) at \$2.70 per lb. One (1) lb. for each person in family as per number registered on Ration Card.

THE DAIRY FARM, ICE & COLD STORAGE CO., LTD.

COMING TO THE

ROXY BROADWAY

MOST SENSATIONAL SCENES EVER BROUGHT TO SCREEN!



MR JOSEPH YOUNG OF AFRICA

TERRY MOORE & BEN JOHNSON



BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"Certainly I'm for the Displaced Persons Act! If it weren't for the fortunes of the last election, I'd be sort of a DP myself!"

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

IS THERE ANOTHER WAY?

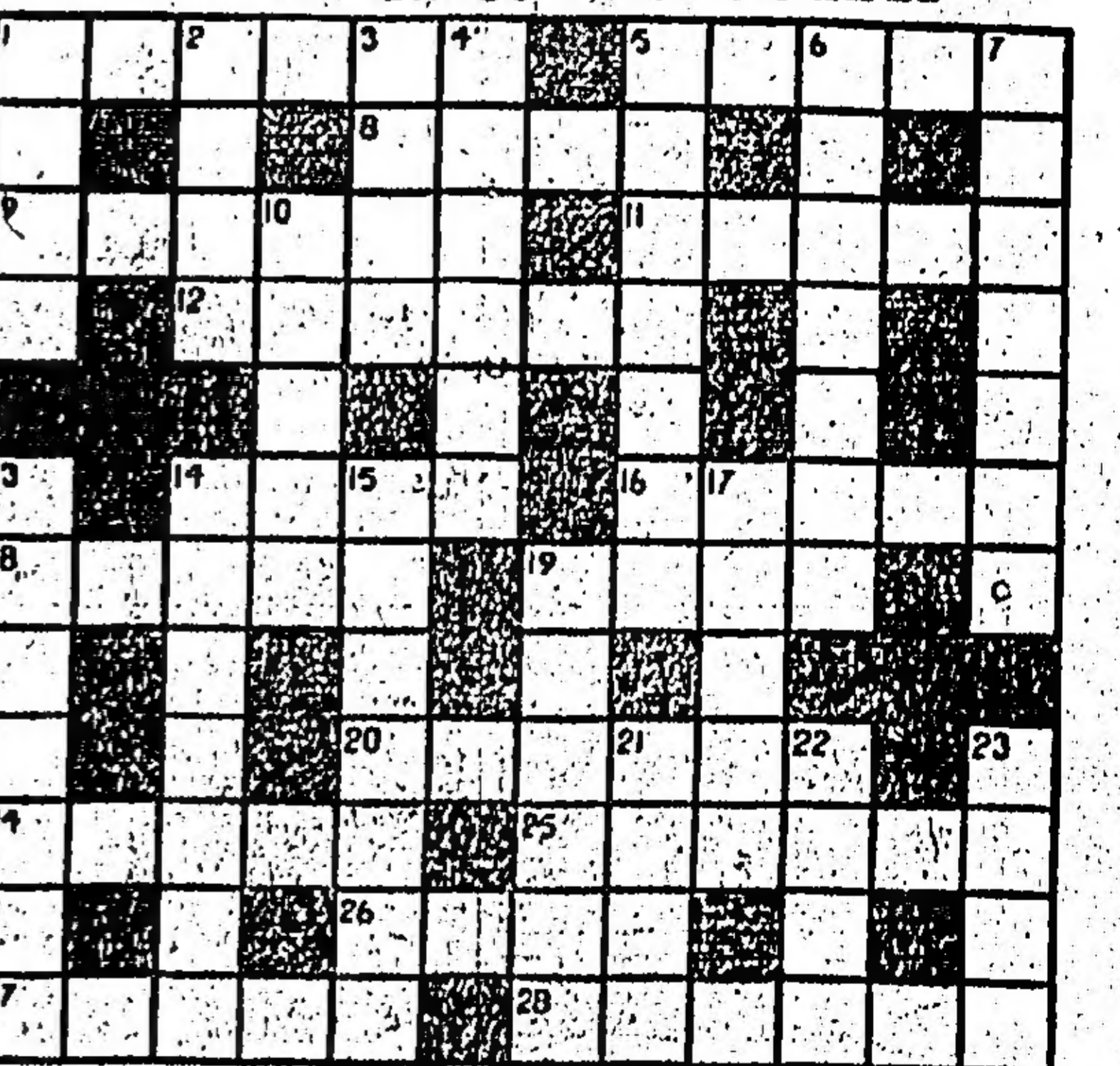
HAVING figured out a bogus way to play for his contract, a fine declarer will not immediately proceed to execute that plan. He will first look things over to see if there might be a better way to seek it, possibly a better way. In the long run, the declarers who plan the best result—other things being equal—are those who satisfy themselves that they are using the best method they can find, before making even a first play from the dummy.

South could see easily that, if the trumps were evenly divided, all of the grand slam bidders would beat him. His sole chance for a good comparative score depended on their being unable to make the grand slam, so he planned on hearts not being evenly divided. If they were not, sound play might enable him to beat even the small slam bidders. If he was the only one to make the contract.

He found the way to get a clean top. He won the club Q with the K, scored the heart A and spade A, then led the heart J. If West played the J as he did, the contract was of course safe. If West had played low, the 10 would have been an immediate entry to make a grand slam. If after West played low and the 10 went on, East had scored with the J, it would be because hearts were divided. In that case, the 2 to the 5 would be an entry to make the small slam. So this plan was best also for rubber bridge.

One very able declarer gained a clear top on this deal in a duplicate game in which the other players were what ordinarily are called "just social players." As soon as West led the club Q and he saw the dummy, he figured out quickly that most of the other pairs would be in 7-Hearts or 7-No Trumps instead of just the small slam. He also noted that probably all of them would try to clear hearts in two rounds and expect to use the spades for minor suit discards, of course first unblocking by playing the spade A.

A BRITISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across
 1 Minister. 10 Social. 11 Indigent. 14 Message.
 2 Accumulate. 11 distinction. 12 Make small. 15 expert.
 3 Flesh of. 18 Humble. 13 quick cuts. 16 Reptile.
 4 Too. 19 Vain. 14 Too. 17 Material.
 5 Supposed. 20 Turns. 15 Bring down. 19 Trespass.
 6 Not just now. 24 Church-land. 16 Affirmed. 21 Compost.
 7 Examine. 25 Cleave. 17 Cause of. 22 tons.
 8 In detail. 26 Bure. 18 amendment. 23 Dried up.
 9 Foot's in. 27 Type of. 19 Difficulties. 24 Quantity of.
 10 spring. 28 Consider. 13 Tiro.

Yesterday's Crossword
 Across—1 Caviar. 4 Alarum. 8 Pillar. 10 Ayr. 12 Seldom. 14 Stumble. 17 Nero. 19 Avoided. 21 Promote. 22 Hero. 23 Erasing. 24 Gusset. 29 Ailre. 30 Touchant. 31 Sord.

Down—1 Copies. 2 Villa. 3 Lend. 5 Lord. 6 Rained. 7 Me. 8 thed. 9 Relates. 11 Ponies. 12 Leveret. 15 Tore. 16 Rumour. 18 Rein. 20 Phrase. 21 Orgies. 23 Atone. 25 Incur. 26 Genus. 28 Sord.

LEE Theatre
AIR-CONDITIONED, OZONIZED AND WARM
TAKE ANY EAST BOUND TRAM OR ROUTE NO. 5 BUS
FINAL SHOWING TODAY
4 SHOWS AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

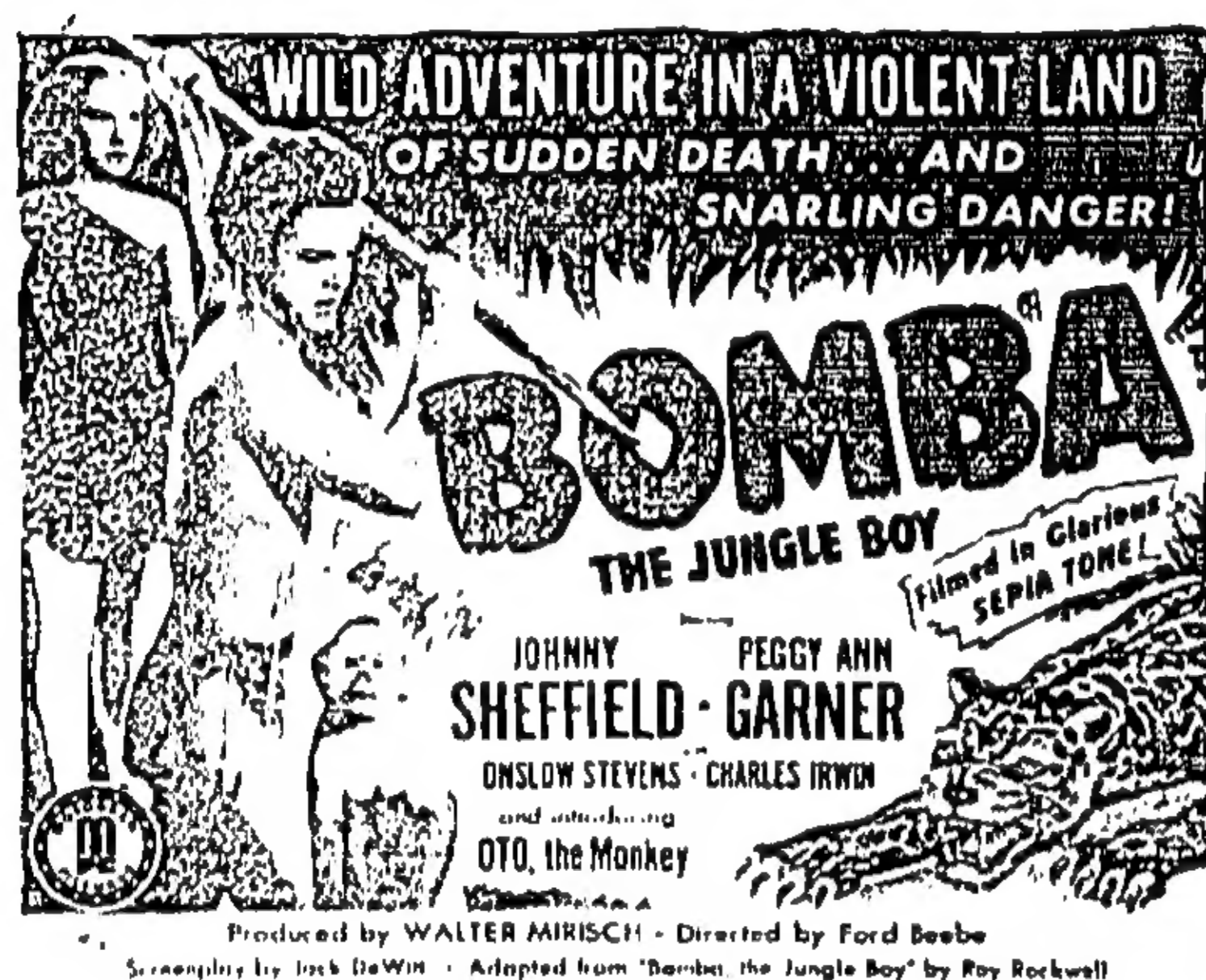
AWARDED THE
GRAND PRIX INTERNATIONALE, 1949
AT THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL AS
THE BEST FILM IN THE WORLD!



"The Third Man"

ALSO LATEST GAYMONT BRITISH NEWS
FOOTBALL—ENGLAND V. ITALY

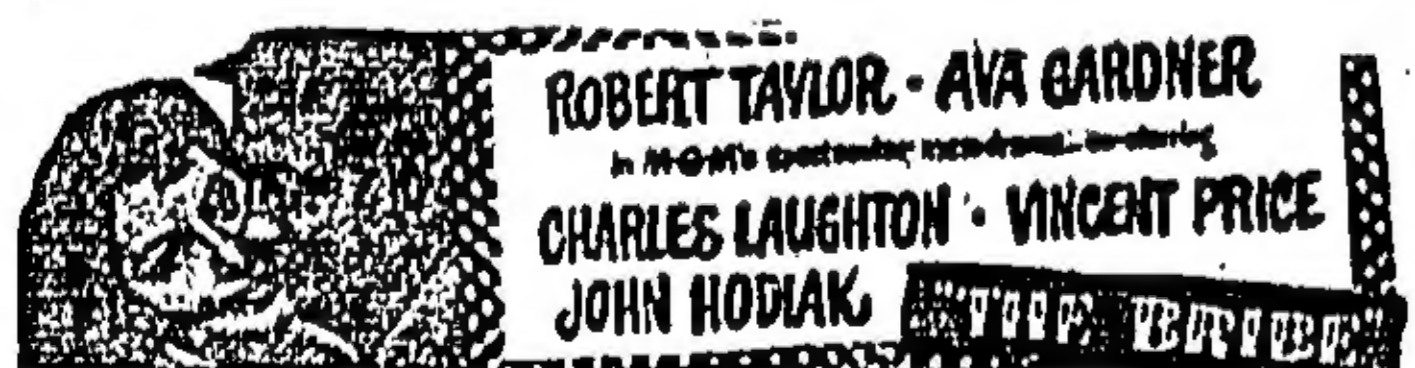
TOMORROW



COMING ATTRACTION



ORIENTAL
AIR-CONDITIONED
TAKE ANY EASTERN TRAM OR HAPPY VALLEY BUS
Showing Today at 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.
A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE WITH AN ALL STAR CAST!



SPECIAL MORNING SHOW DAILY at 12.30
AT REDUCED ADMISSION PRICES
Today: "THAT MAD MR. JONES"
Tomorrow: "NAKED CITY"

SHOWING TODAY **MAJESTIC** at 2.30, 5.09, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.



FOREIGNERS BEING EDGED OUT OF THE INTERIOR OF CHINA

(By Chang Kuo-sin)

(Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of three articles by Chang Kuo-sin, United Press correspondent who has just returned to Hong Kong after an overland trip from Shanghai.)

The Chinese Communists' policy towards foreigners appears to be to edge them out of China—at least from the interior.

A number of foreign missionaries, after observing Chinese Communist rule during the past few months, are given to pessimism as regards the future.

One prominent American missionary, who for obvious reasons cannot be identified, told this correspondent that the Chinese Communists, although avowedly guaranteeing freedom of religious belief, are out to eliminate freedom of religious action.

He said that the first blow against the Church has already been struck by the Chinese Communists who closed 80 per cent of the rural churches in Shantung province, and over 80 per cent in Manchuria and Hopei. Officially, the Shantung churches were sealed because they were "private organizations," which are not permitted to exist, while no official reason has been given for the closure in Manchuria and Hopei.

A similar policy seems to be followed as regards foreign businessmen despite Mao Tse-tung's assertions that the Reds welcome foreign trade. According to all indications, the Reds do not intend to expel the foreigners officially, but to make life so difficult that they will leave voluntarily.

One of the handiest weapons is travel restriction, whereby foreigners living in the coastal cities are not permitted to visit out-stations or make business trips to other cities.

For example, the British manager of a large export firm in Nanking was unable to take his home leave because the Communist authorities did not allow his colleague in Hankow to travel to Nanking to replace him. They told the latter that he could have a permit to leave China, but not one permitting transfer from one city to another.

Closure of churches

Most foreigners believe that they will in the future be permitted to continue in business, but only in the larger cities and ports where they would do all the buying and selling. They believe that they will not be permitted to travel in the interior or maintain branches there after the present staff leaves. They believe that foreign firms with large properties in the interior of China—mostly British—will eventually be compelled to sell out to Chinese interests.

Missionary informants said that they have protested to Premier Chou En-lai against the closure of churches. The latter replied that the government would investigate but no official action has been taken to re-open the churches. Some congregations have not been interfered with, but others are required to follow various regulations.

Religious instruction has been banned in some schools, but elsewhere it is allowed to continue as a voluntary course.

In addition to the closing of churches, the Chinese Communists are also restricting the activities of missionaries.

No legal protection

At the present time, the Church has no legal standing, and some missionaries were told that they will have no legal protection as long as foreigners remain on the mission staff.

Travel restrictions are placed on foreign missionaries in the foreign businessmen. Some missionaries in Anhwei province were not allowed to travel to Nanking even for medical treatment. However, they are being permitted to leave China altogether.

Missionaries in Shantung province are not allowed to move at all. American missionaries in Nanchang were questioned whether they were agents of the American Government.

Apparently a great deal of authority is placed in the hands

of local administrators who administer regulations in a number of different ways.

Rotary suspected

Chinese pastors are also finding life difficult in some places. In Chienkiang, 80 miles East of Nanking, Chinese pastors were required to register with the police and questioned extensively about their attitude towards the Chinese Communists, their connection with the United States, and how they get financial support.

Other types of foreign establishments subject to suspicion are, for example, the Rotary Clubs. All Rotary Clubs in the Yangtze Valley, except in Nanking and Shanghai, have been compelled to disband, and Wushu Rotarians were questioned at weekly luncheons.

The YMCA at Nanchang was searched, and files and documents examined in order to ascertain its connection with the American Government.—United Press.

SNAKES NOT PROPER PETS

Paris, December 27.
Six-year-old Nicole Vaisiere, top breadwinner of her family, is unemployed today because a French judge ruled that big snakes are not proper pets for little girls.

Nicole drew crowds daily to the family sidewalk in Montmartre to watch her play with her five-foot, Brazilian python. As a feature of the act, she put the snake's head in her mouth.

The judge said that must stop. Marcel Vaisiere, Nicole's father, protested that the snake was harmless. "Besides," he said, "I think anything would like Nicole."

When the judge stood firm, Vaisiere shrugged his shoulders and said he guessed the family's travelling show would make out somehow.

To keep out of trouble with the courts, he said, the family probably would leave Nicole in Paris with friends when it packed up and set out on its next tour.—United Press.

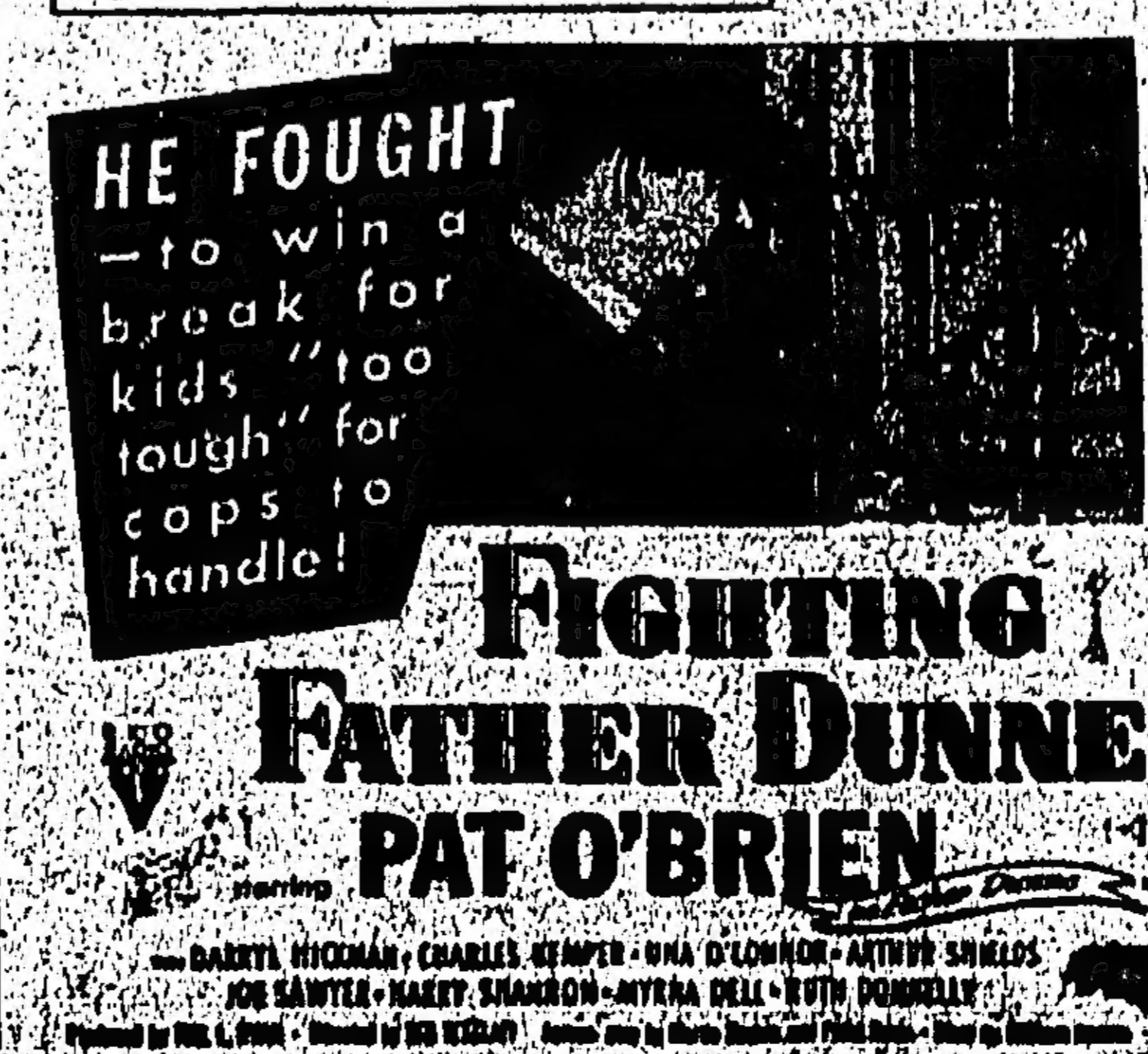
PRAYERS FOR STALIN

Stockholm, December 27.
Prayers for the health of Marshal Stalin as head of the Soviet State were said in all Russian Orthodox Churches in Moscow and throughout Russia during the past week in observance of his 70th birthday, according to Moscow reports from usually reliable sources.

A celebration service was held in the Yelokhovskiy Cathedral in Moscow last Wednesday, Stalin's birthday. Alexis, the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, officiated.

Foreign correspondents in Moscow, prevented by censorship from sending this news report, said that censorship on the story of Marshal Stalin's birthday was more than usually severe.—Reuter.

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Flying saucer theories laid to rest

Washington, December 27.
The Air Force today said that an exhaustive two-year investigation of scores of reports of strange, disc-like objects sweeping along at tremendous speeds had established that there was no such thing as a "flying saucer."

It said the reports resulted from misinterpretation of various conventional objects, a mild form of mass hysteria or hoaxes.

The Air Force added that it had discontinued the special "Project Saucer" set up at Wright Field, Ohio, to study the objects because "there is no evidence that the reports are not the result of natural phenomena."

The statement was made after True magazine said in its current issue that certain authorities believed the "saucers" were inter-planetary spacecrafts manned by small civilized beings.—United Press.

Two million mentally deficient

Tokyo, December 28.
Approximately 2,400,000 Japanese are mentally deficient, according to a Japanese Government survey.

The figure includes nearly 250,000 in lunatic asylums.

The total figure is made up of those considered mentally abnormal from the medical viewpoint and others classified simply "feeble minded."

Mental patients have been sharply on the increase since the Japanese surrender, the survey showed.

Alarmed over the situation, the Government Welfare Ministry is formulating a Mental Hygiene Bill designed to bolster the present mental hygiene system.

There are at present 122 lunatic asylums in Japan to give more than 80,000,000 people, the survey added.

The new Mental Hygiene Bill will provide for a network of mental hygiene stations throughout Japan to advise on mental diseases and their prevention and the protection of mental patients.—Reuter.

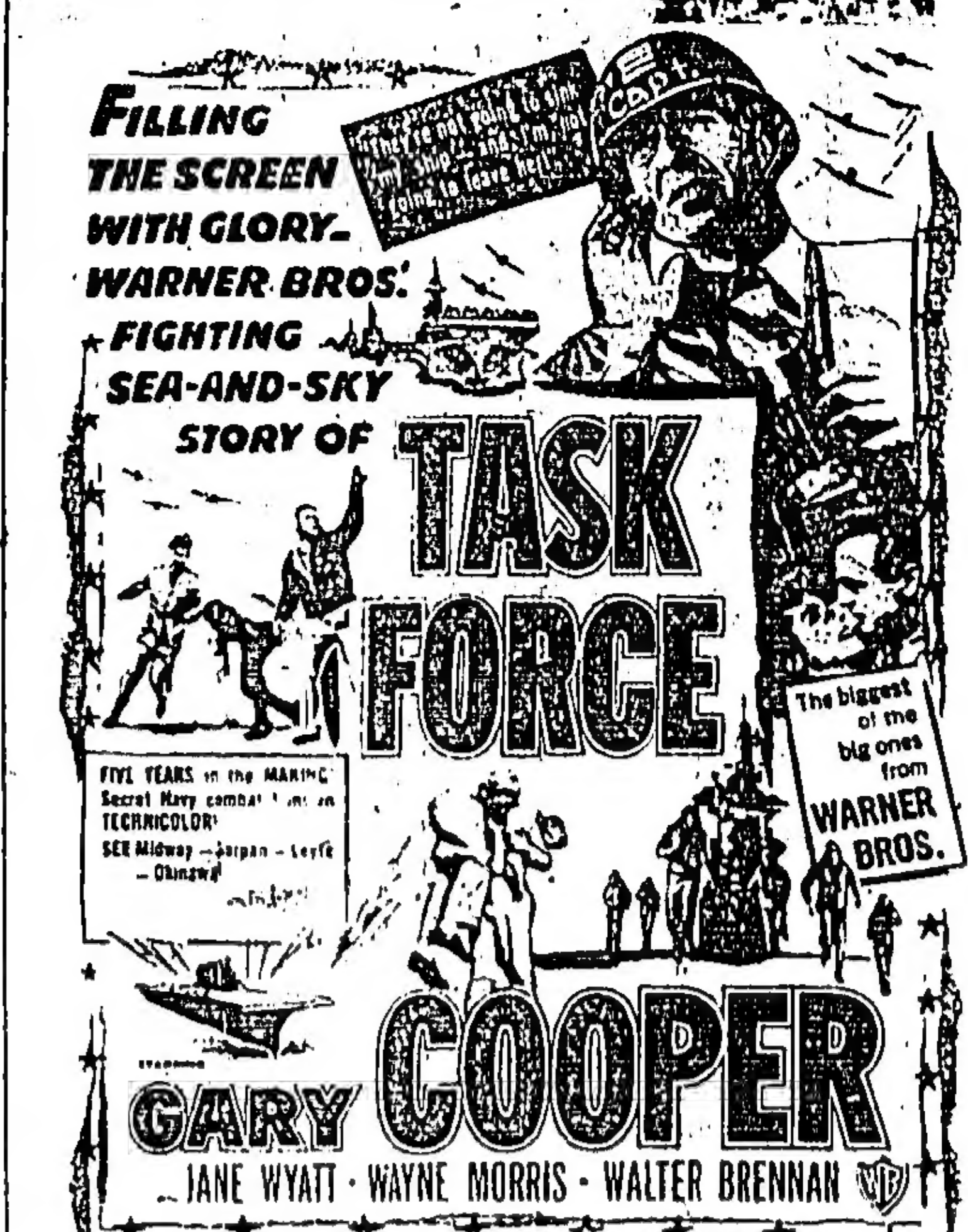
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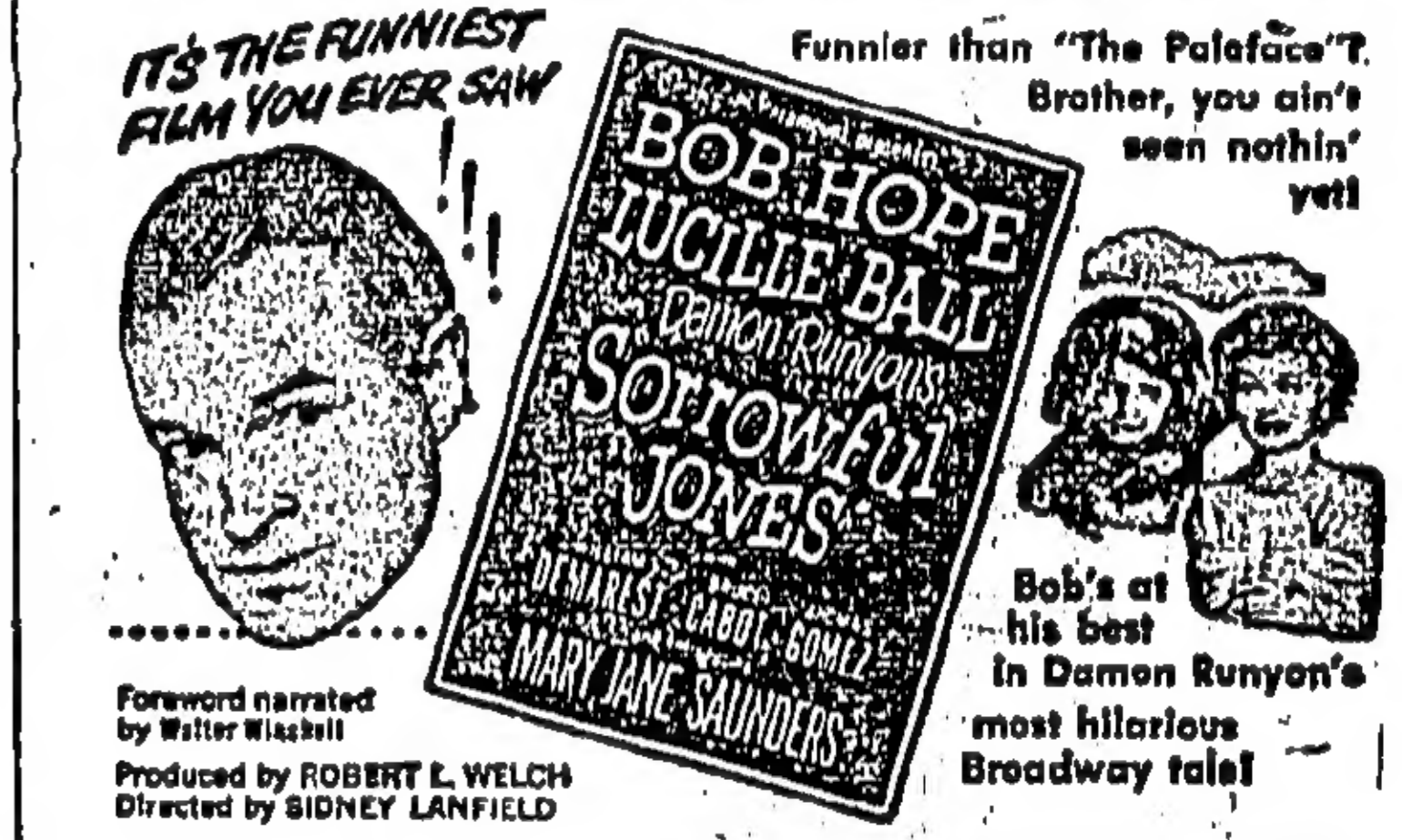
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THE VICTORIAN IDEA

By "Windrush"



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ENGAGEMENT

THE ENGAGEMENT is announced in Hong Kong between Capt. Peter Leung, Chatterton, F. Survey, youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. B. D. Chatterton of Surrey and Stephanie Barbara, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. H. F. S. King, C.B.E. & M.C., King of GHQ, FARELF, Singapore Malayan Paper, please copy.

THOMSON - The engagement is announced between Roy Thomson, first son of Mr. & Mrs. L. Thomson of Whitlock, Leeds, York, and Joan, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Thomson of "Dorset" Station, Hong Kong.

BATTLE IS JOINED.

The transwaymen and the masses who have been travelling free of charge—but by no means free of danger—have had their bit of fun over the holidays. Now the management have hit back hard, with the gloves off. Conductors who refused to take fares have been sacked, the service has been suspended, and the public have begun to suffer. Dismissals are usually the first things to be resorted to in any settlement, and one wonders whether what may be tactically expedient is not psychologically unwise.

The battle has now been joined in real earnest. Three measures appear urgently necessary: (1) resumption of negotiations and mediation; (2) restoration of service on a normal basis while negotiations proceed; and (3) devising of machinery to deal with other disputes and head off possible deadlocks and dangerous delays.

The labour unions have selected what appears to be their strongest case for the opening trial of strength. They have said the settlement will be regarded as a precedent governing the settlement of the other disputes. They have at the same time rejected arbitration, which the management has accepted. The unions have refused arbitration as a matter of principle—not over any question of the composition of such a tribunal. They refused in spite of the fact that in their manifesto the unions said that "we leave it to the public to be the arbiter in impartially digesting the figures we have cited."

The public will not be greatly impressed by certain of the passages in the manifesto. The unions can hardly expect to get over-much sympathy from the real victims of their action when they cry on the public's shoulder about malnutrition and digestive complaints. These do exist, in and out of industry—more out of industry than within. And none are so cold and hungry as those who have no profitable employment whatever like hundreds of thousands who walk Shanghai streets.

Nevertheless an impartial examination of the true values of wages and allowances would almost certainly show that the balance is against many of the workers. The public, deprived for the moment as they are of an essential utility, undoubtedly feel that something must be done, first to establish parity where it does exist and then to remedy it.

The drivers and conductors of trams and buses have no enviable job under present conditions. That will be readily conceded by everybody. They have to cope with overcrowded vehicles and congested roads from morning to night. That is a point on which they have everybody's sympathy, and sometimes when they bring humours and cheerful

There are reports that the Australian Labour Party is digesting the lessons of its programme of radical Socialism and nationalisation. It is said that it will switch to a programme like that of President Roosevelt for a system of extensive social services combined with private enterprise.

A notable visitor to another Dominion has made an interesting comment. Lord Wavell, returning from Canada, says: "The main impression I have carried away is that of unhampered individual enterprise. It has been a refreshment of the spirit, like coming from a hot-house into the open air, to leave our over-administered, over-centralized

island and to find individual enterprise flourishing, not only unhampered by restrictive regulations, but encouraged as a matter of course.

"The Canadian is assumed by his Government as capable of looking after himself without constant supervision. Canada produces a very large portion of the material for making paper, but puts it into newspapers rather than into Government forms and regulations.

There have been in the last month a great many other similar stories showing a change in feeling about Socialism. But it is too early to say that there is a real change of mood in England itself, or that at the General

Electoral Socialism will be repudiated by the majority of the country. During the last five years the Labour Government and its policies have reflected very accurately the ideas and wishes of the preponderant part of the electorate. If the electoral ideas have now begun to change, the change is a good deal less radical than the optimism in the Conservative Party like to suppose.

Comparison

It may be worth while considering how the outlook of the majority of Englishmen today compares with that of their grandfathers and great-grandfathers in Victorian days, who

favoured exactly the kind of system described by Lord Wavell as still flourishing in Canada.

The Victorians believed in a rough and ready rule that people should look after themselves. If they showed exceptional energy or talent it was right that they should receive an exceptional reward. Speaking broadly the role of Government was limited to seeing that people did not cheat, or use violence. It laid down certain general rules for the conduct of general life and gave protection against foreign invasion.

The weakness in the Victorian conception was that in its system of complete laissez-faire there could not in fact be the fair competition, which was to be the essence of the economic and social structure. The man who owned property had an enormous advantage over the man who owned no property. "Slow rise" worth by poverty depressed.

The result was that the Victorian age has become, in retrospect, the classical age of the exploitation by the capitalist class of the proletariat. And, as a further result, the proletariat, which has now achieved political power, repudiates nearly all the ideas which the Victorians cherished, or at least regards them with very grave suspicion. Compare with the ideas of the Victorians the ideas of the young man and woman of today. It must be remembered that the war has caused a sharp division between the middle-aged and the really young of Britain today. The middle-aged still retain many of the ideas which they inherited from their fathers. But the young, growing up in the war atmosphere, have made something like a break with tradition.

The teen desires of the younger generation are for security and social equality. Unlike the Victorians they see no reason why the audacious, eccentric, over-ambitious type of entrepreneur should receive a very large reward. On the contrary, they regard such a man as a rather undesirable social type. Their instinctive desire is that every man should keep in step. While the Victorian was apt to congratulate all his effort on how he could "get on," the young man of today is mainly concerned with seeing that other people do not steal an unfair advantage. At the same time there has been a profound change in the attitude towards work. The Victorian made a fetish of work, and undoubtedly stunted their lives. But it can perhaps be said that young men and women today by making a fetish of leisure are stunting their lives no less.

Basic concept

It is easy to see how well the Labour Welfare State fits in with the character of this new generation. Its basic concept is that Society as a whole should produce the national wealth. This is to be shared out as equally as possible. It is not to be shared out on the principle that the more enterprising or gifted person receives a larger dividend than his fellows. The employer is to be kept in check. Since the young men can feel very cordial towards their employers, it is natural that they vote Labour.

Labour policy has, however, one great weakness which in the trouble which Great Britain is experiencing is becoming increasingly obvious in its zeal for providing general security for the Labour Government tries to "freeze" society. Every person who has a job is to continue doing that same job; indeed, social devaluation is laid down that he shall as far as possible continue to do a job for the same wage.

Every firm which is functioning shall continue to function. But the health of society is maintained not by giving it an artificial stability but by constant decay and renewal. Society is like the human body in which tissue is continually destroyed and recreated; it can be healthy only if it continues to function.

It is for that reason that many people for a calamity if the present Government is returned at the General Election to continue its policies.



"Gramophone Society
"Chopin lecture records."
I understand they are getting a new disc jockey next time.

A Washington report states: "It is believed that the Communists will want to buy substantial quantities of goods from the United States, and this country should sell them on a cash basis."

"Ah, these conflicting ideologies! It might be more appropriate now to refer to the newly independent country as Indonesia."

The Nationalist government is going to be "peeled down" to only six ministries.

You know, the loss of these fruit opportunities for squeeze is enough to give anyone the pips.

Myrtle was saying about a friend the other night that she's the sort of woman who always enters a room voice first.

"Available soon: baby-mam with prominent family of two children under 10 and very young baby."

You mean notorious, don't you?

More howlers. The jockey lost two of his teeth when the horse fell, and had to be destroyed.

The people of India are divided into castes and outcasts. The sun never sets on the British Empire because the British Empire is in the East and the sun sets in the West.

Water is composed of two gases, Oxygen and Hydrogen. Oxygen is pure gin, Hydrogen is gin-and-water.

The dog came bounding down the path, emitting whips at every sound.

Revolution is a form of government in South America.

"Star explosion." Yes, it was seen in California, but strangely enough, it had nothing to do with Hollywood.

Dentists are now able to excavate for fillings with a painless jet of gas containing abrasives.

Nervous patients complain that they can't see the point of this new drill.

"In the typists' room, the manager voiced the views of all present when he said he was sorry to lose Miss Jones after 15 years' vice, but he knew there were fresh fields ahead of her in her new venture of matrimony."

ELAN, YES--BUT, ALAS! IT WON'T WIN WARS

By Selby Bradford

Forgetting the use of any form of atomic bomb in modern warfare, let us come quickly to the fact that whatever the weight of air power may be, whatever sea support or protection is available, there is still, and must always be, the essential need for an army.

Western Europe's Army today and probably for the next 10 years at least, belongs to France. It is conceivable that should British commitments in Italy and France be nullified, we might be able to offer once again a fighting force of four or five divisions, available within a week or so after "D-Day."

Looking to France

Belgium, Holland, and, with the water communications of the Atlantic, France, becoming more and more, Denmark as well, could perhaps provide another 10 divisions which even in my mathematics cannot be made up to much more than 15.

And somewhere behind an Eastern curtain, inscrutable as the ballet dancers, chorus girls, or the whole cast of the "Follies" but not half so attractive, are believed to exist something in the nature of 200 Russian divisions mobilized and being equipped with the most modern weapons.

It needs no statistician to say that to meet the first shock we must look to France, who within the first week of warfare in 1914 put 71 divisions into the field.

ness to their difficult task, a good deal more than mere sympathy. Indeed, we could do with a lot more of this all round. The investor's lot, for example, is not altogether a happy one, in spite of the unions' references to huge profits.

Genuine hardships will have to be removed, whoever has to pay for it, whether it be the shareholders or the public. The last annual report of the Commissioner of Labour said that real wages of artisans had undoubtedly risen since 1939 and probably those of semi-skilled workers also. Unskilled labour was little better off than in 1939 except in the improvement of health and nutrition. The real wages of clerical and technical workers had certainly not risen—"if anything they have fallen."

That review covered the period ending last March. Since then conditions have become less normal than ever, with a great influx of capital and then a considerable outflow to areas considered less insecure, as well as a tremendous inflow of refugees from China. Nobody supposes that these conditions have made the lot of the worker more favourable than it was a year ago.

No doubt in some cases there have been greatly increased revenues side by side with increased living costs. But what is true of one utility is not necessarily true of all. A settlement of the present tramways dispute, for example, cannot fairly be regarded as a hard and fast precedent for other utilities.

But if each is to be settled on its merits, there ought to be proper machinery for it. There are certain issues, such as the actual cost of living, common to all present, and potential disputes. A more comprehensive and realistic assessment of this factor ought to be worked out as soon as possible. And it would be a good thing all round if the example of the Naval Dockyard were followed, and joint Consultative Committees formed in all public utilities and larger enterprises.

who in approximately the same period in 1939 had 45 ready. Today, she could put in what?

"This is today's French Army like?"

It is never easy to criticize the proud possessions of a close friend, and for centuries the Army has been one of France's most cherished "valuables."

I am certain that despite every other call her man power she would mobilize within three weeks after a declaration of war the 85 divisions which she had ready at the same date in 1939.

But today and tomorrow what is to me, for a long time ahead four-fifths of them would be merely bodies of men lacking all necessary equipment, though imbued with the best of the most fervent fighting spirit, the true clan of the "Grande Armee."

Alas, even on its own does not win wars these days.

Today's French Army, excluding that part which is fighting something like a major war in Indo-China, is largely lacking in practical experience of modern warfare.

Little equipment

After Dunkirk and the Fall of France nearly half the French Army spent five weary years in prison camps. The rest broke up into the "Resistance" or entered hard-pressed civil life. To many—most of them—such modern aspects of warfare as "Monty's" clear-cut definition of Army/Air integration are things read about but unpractised.

In July 1945, when peace came, England was left with vast stocks of equipment. France had nothing. Thus radar was almost an unknown mystery to her. She had been stripped of everything by the Germans; cut off from research and development; suddenly called upon to face a peace in which she was impoverished, poorer in many ways perhaps than we in England are and yet one in which she was required to produce the Army of the Future.

What she has achieved is miraculous.

General de Lattre de Tassigny's training camps for conscripts are something so revolutionary, so in-

spiring, is "Le Vainqueur" beyond belief in England.

Conscription works in France possibly because French youth has become accustomed to it. Probably, too, because the 21-year-old French conscript of today grew up under Occupation, is inspired with a fervent patriotism, and a determination that such things shall be prevented from occurring again.

There are intense vitality and ability in the ranks of junior officers. There is in contrast considerable mutual distrust, if not dislike in the ranks of the High Command.

What is needed

Hitlers though, need have little fear that Communism will keep into the Armed Forces. During recent strikes, when sections of the French Army were mobilized, their behaviour and loyalty were inspiring.

As a young French officer said to me "Communism in France whatever you in England may think is not of the Russian variety. It will never destroy the French soldier's love of France."

What the French Army wants is not immediately its modernization, and it is not, in the vast quantities of U.S. equipment to bring it up to date.

It is pathetic to see fine infantry regiments armed with a mixture of weapons, ranging from American to German.

It is devastating to hear of economies which have prevented field gunners from firing a shell in practice for nearly a year and have made it impossible for Ack-Ack gunners to try out their first gift of radar-controlled weapons for the same period.

It isn't comforting either to hear how men of a French air-borne division have patiently built their own "jumping towers" so that they can keep in practice.

But despite all such trials the spirit of the French Army, the young French Army, is higher, I believe, than it has ever been during this century.

Give it better financial conditions, give it the tanks and the thousand-and-one other things which America has in gold-plated, and give it, finally, a little time, and it will again become one of the ruling factors in the world of today and tomorrow.

Give 'em tit for Tass!

By Gordon Young

Alice in Wonderland could not feel more strange than a British reader who attempts to follow the goings-on in his decadent Capitalist homeland by reading only the reports from Britain as published in the Moscow papers from the Soviet news agency called Tass.

TASS—an abbreviation of four Russian words meaning approximately "Telegraphic Agency Soviet Socialist"—

What they send

Viscount Jowitt's committee which is investigating the diplomatic immunity at present enjoyed by the London staff of Tass would be fascinated if they made, as I have just done, an analysis of all the despatches from these Reuters, which have appeared in "Evening News," "Herald," "The Times," "The Daily Mail," and "The Daily Worker," and the preparations for a new war more important than building homes for the people. Tass messages are usually factually correct in themselves, you see; it is only by cunning selection of some facts and omission of others that they believe their twisted picture of Britain.

Two themes

In the whole of the sample six-week period under review, for instance, I could find only 20 news items from Britain.

Christopher Hill is what makes big British news in the Soviet Press (No. 10 Downing Street) is a triumphal tour of London, Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin, by a Soviet "Cultural Delegation."

That capitalist Britain is on the verge of complete collapse, and that Britain is an outpost for "Anglo-American warmongers."

For that first propaganda line, the announcement by Mr. Attlee in October of the cuts in Government expenditure was obviously tops for Tass. "Tass" needed the Tass story on this subject, a new offensive against the level of existence of the British people.

One trick of the Tass messages, as they appear in the Soviet Press, is to report fully only the utterances in Parliament of extreme Left-wing speakers.

Thus, on November 18, the day after, Sir Stafford Cripps had made a reassuring statement about Britain's dollar and gold reserves Tass had a story in "Izvestia" which was headed "A new devaluation of the pound is possible."

The story, reported, part of a Commons debate about Britain's finances, and prominently featured the declaration, attributed to a Left-wing M.P., that "The British Government considers the preparations for a new war more important than building homes for the people."

The actual Tass messages are usually factually correct in themselves, you see; it is only by cunning selection of some facts and omission of others that they believe their twisted picture of Britain.

Strange picture

So if you know nothing of Britain but what you could read in the Tass messages of the past six weeks, you would judge that Britain's most influential newspaper (the only paper which Tass regularly picks up for comment) was the "Daily Worker" and our chief leaders of public opinion were Mr. Gallacher, Mr. D. N. Pritt, and Professor Bernard.

Afterthoughts British correspondents in Moscow were carefully selected to give the two leading themes of current Tass propaganda about us.



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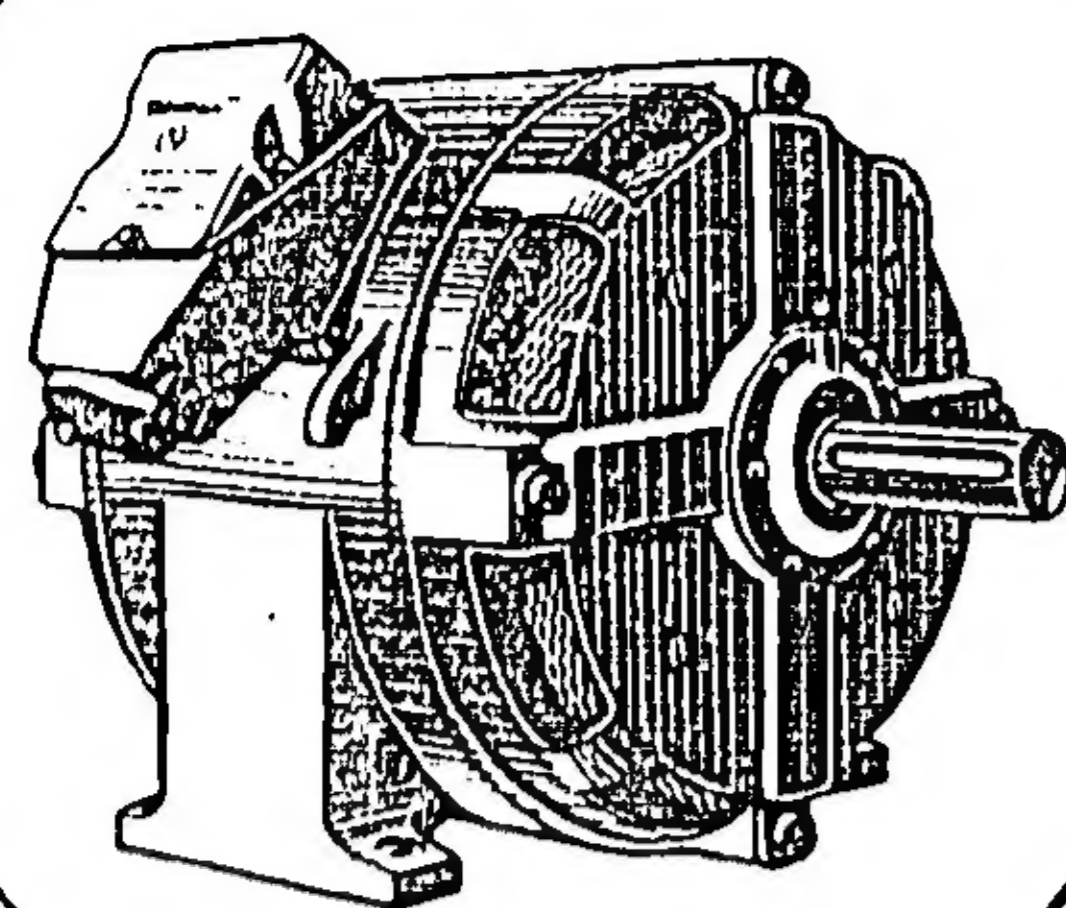
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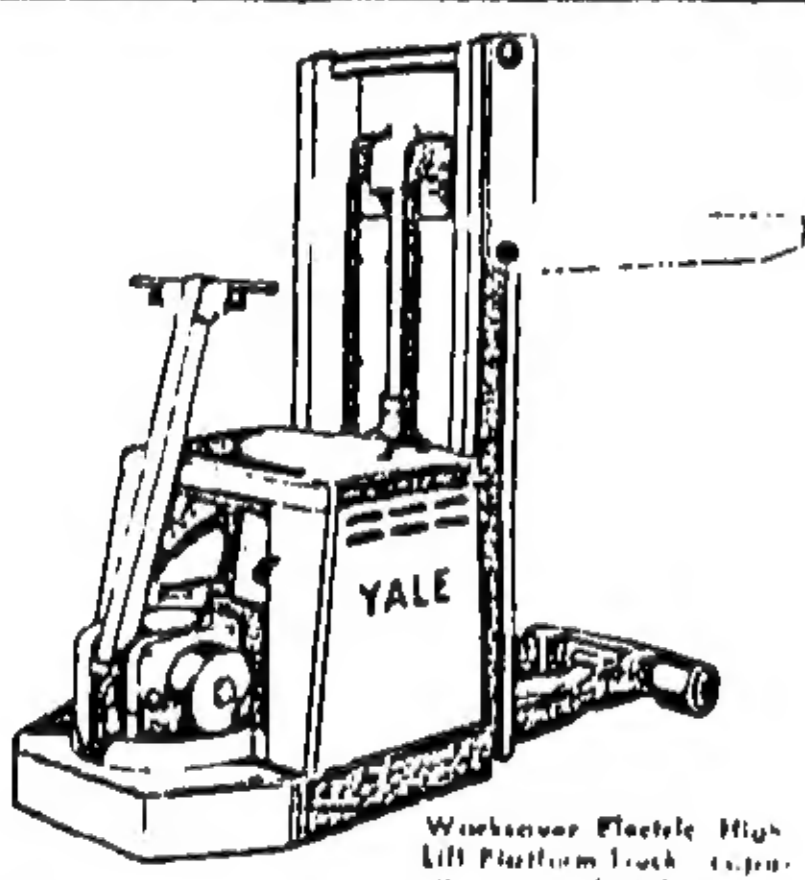
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ENGINEERING PAGE

PRACTICAL MEASURES TO PREVENT FACTORY MISHAPS

(By PHILIP TYNDALE DREW)

A century of legislation covering factory working conditions has resulted in a very high standard of safety in Britain's industry today. This has been achieved as a result of constant and careful research into operating circumstances, and the behaviour of machinery as well as the study of the human element in every industry.

While full credit must be given to Britain's Inspector of Factories, it would be unjust not to give credit also to employers themselves who co-operate with the problem of preventing accidents.

In fact, the general rule by which both the Factory Department of Britain's Ministry of Labour and the employer have been guided is to keep a move or two ahead of existing legislation.

The safety laws made, culminating in the 1937 Factories Act, exist to provide authority with adequate powers to deal with the occasional bad employer who appears with every generation. The laws are of searching character, for without them, accident rates through negligence would be much higher than they actually are.

Many of the requirements laid down in the 1937 Factories Act merely incorporate recommendations made in voluntary agreements between the Inspector of Factories and various industries as far back as 1911. The Committee on Accidents in Factories decided that conferences should be held regularly in these industries to discuss the best means of maintaining safe operating conditions.

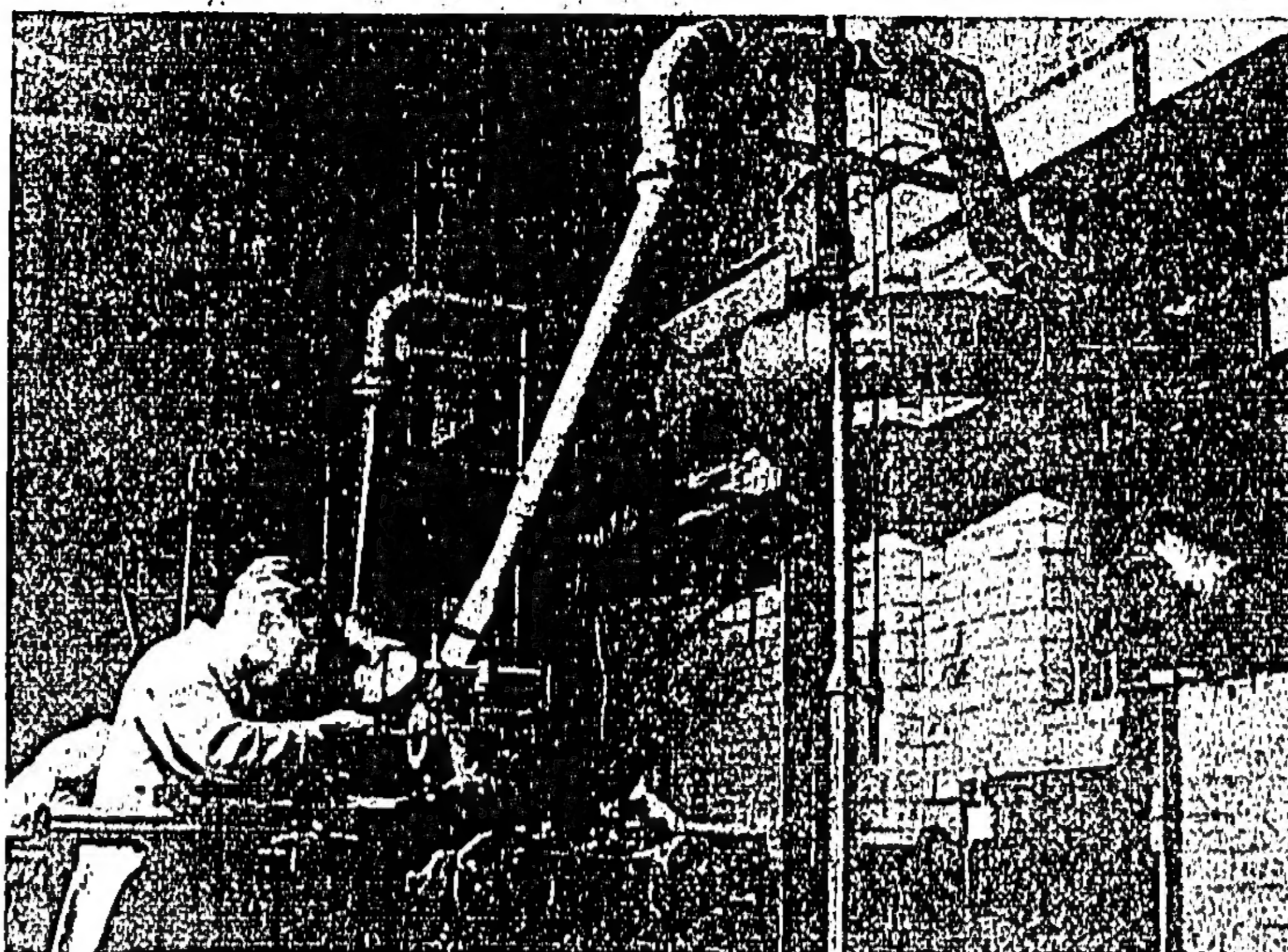
Obviously, these agreements had no legal value. But for that very reason they had an even greater practical value because efficient employers have made great contributions to the furtherance of safety in industry based on the practical knowledge.

Regulations for machine guarding

Owing to the technical complexities of operating conditions in the whole range of industries, it has not been easy to arrive at a general tabulation of the safeguards to be taken. There has recently been compiled a list of all those parts of industrial machinery of every kind which are dangerous, and which will cause accidents if not securely fenced or if not of such construction as to be as safe as they be if securely fenced.

The list, which includes every part of machinery used in all industries likely to prove dangerous, ranges from revolving shafts, spindles, mandrels and bars to projecting bolt fasteners and reciprocating tools and dies. In all there are 25 distinct groups of parts listed.

One or more of these 25 groups of dangerous parts will be found



A machine in one of Britain's factories with a dust extractor fitted to it. Where machines create abrasive dust during operation, dust extractors are being fitted to prevent the dust from harming the health of the worker. This is one of the many practical measures taken in Britain to look after the welfare of workers in industry.

on every machine used in industry of any kind, no matter what processes are used. By referring to the list, any factory manager will know at once what parts of every machine in his plant must be guarded to prevent accidents.

Any of the five recognised methods of guarding or a combination of them can be applied to any machine. The five methods are:

1. A fixed guard, or
2. An automatic guard, or
3. An interlock guard, or
4. A trip guard, or
5. A positional safety guard.

Accidents due to women's hair

Other safeguards to be taken call for a good deal of patience and correct psychology in dealing with personnel. A major cause of serious accidents is the catching-up of clothing or hair in machinery. During World War II there was at one time an alarmingly high rate of scalp accidents amongst female munition workers. Many women were new to factory life, and did not like to conceal attractive hair in caps and nets. Some frightful accidents happened in consequence usually on unfenced or inadequately fenced machinery.

Accidents of this kind do still occur in Britain's factories, but they are infrequent because the machinery that caused these accidents is fenced, also; by patient internal relations, female staff have been made aware of the dangers of their jobs.

Men are reluctant to take precautions sometimes: welders often remove eye-shields because of the discomfort of wearing them and pay a heavy price in consequence. But manufacturers of this type of protective device now are supplying more comfortable goggles, and wearers are less inclined to take them off.

Some of the most important advances in accident prevention have taken place in Britain's textile industry. Agreements have been worked out with cotton-

weaving and spinning companies, laying down minimum safety requirements for spacing of machinery and guarding.

An important clause deals with the possibility of expansion, because in the past firms sometimes installed more looms to increase output in existing space, with the result that cramped working conditions increased the risk of accidents. Today, in erecting a new shed, "in order to allow for possible future developments involving the installation of deeper looms, the depth allowed for two looms and alleys should be not less than 10 feet nine inches."

More space for machinery

Weaving mills now are in some instances removing idle looms to create more space for safe and easy movement. Back alleys and spaces between looms and walls have been widened. This is done largely to reduce the risk of rupture and strain inherent in carrying beams on the shoulder around pillars and narrow footways. In seeing that the new recommendations on spacing are carried out, the Inspector of Factories has the backing of a tough enforcement rule.

When he directs that certain steps must be taken to minimise the risk of accident or strain in beam-carrying, the mill owner may claim that the required steps are unreasonable. In that case an independent Committee, representing the employer, operator, and the Factory Inspector will carry out an examination of the mill.

The Committee must then communicate its decision at once both to the employer and the District Factory Inspector.

Another interesting development must be taken for the effect of dust-polluted atmosphere in spinning-mills. Various medical authorities have established after long research that certain lung complaints are definitely traceable to cotton-dust. The term is prevalent due to the condition, in which United

States growers send the raw material to Britain. Spinning companies are spending hundreds—in some cases thousands—of pounds on installing special dust-extraction machinery and oil-spraying equipment to reduce this danger. These safety-practices governing cotton-mill operation in Britain today have been arrived at after a long process of improvement on voluntary agreements.

Atom-smasher may create matter

Construction of a giant atom-smasher that actually may create matter from energy has begun at Stanford University, California.

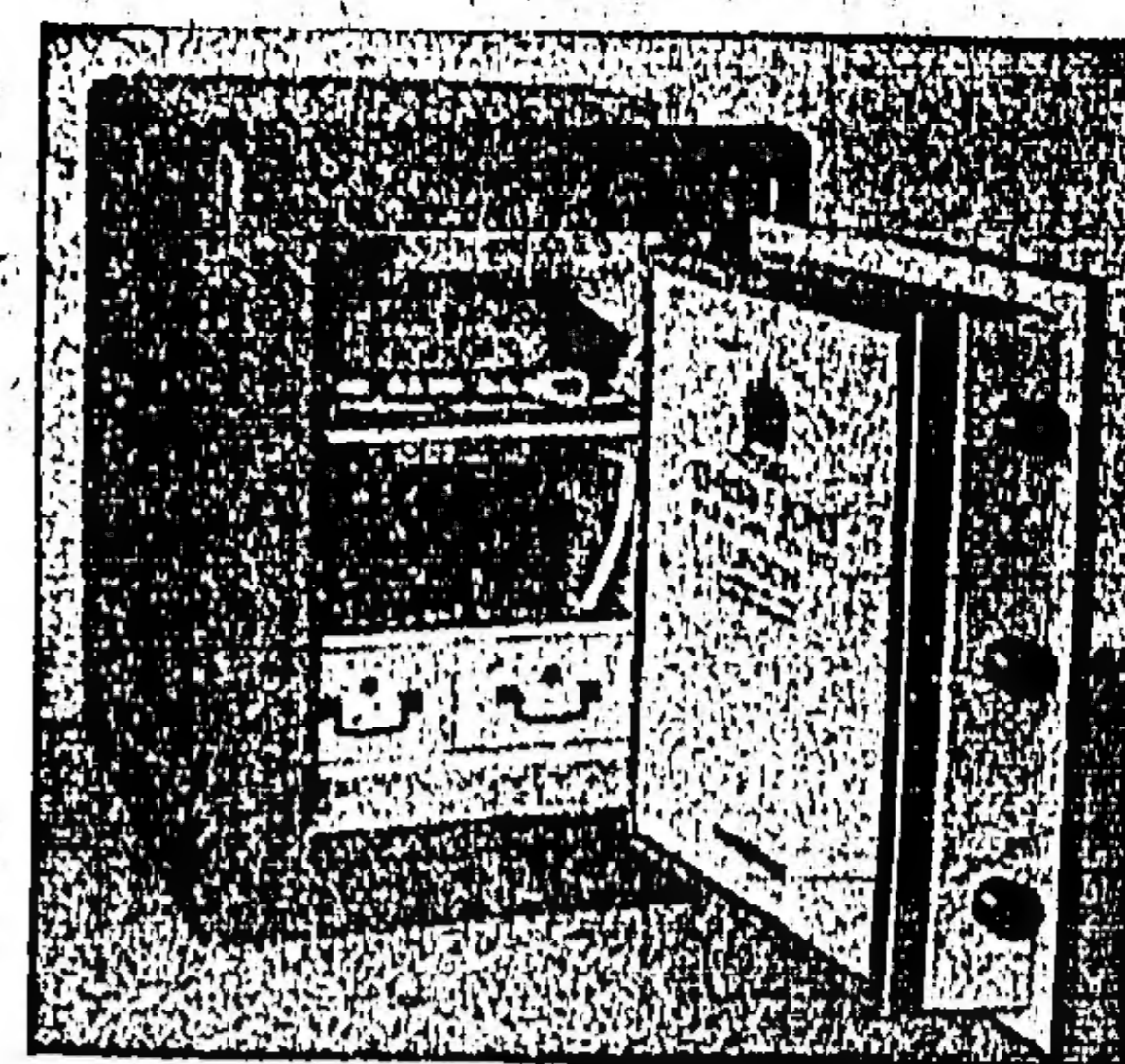
The 160-foot electron linear accelerator, a new weapon for scientists probing the fundamental secrets of nature, will hurl particles with an energy of more than 1,000,000,000 electron volts.

Dr. William W. Hansen, director of Stanford's microwave laboratory, believes the high-energy bombardment will give scientists the laboratory equivalent of cosmic rays.

It also may permit production of protons and neutrons—atomic particles—in what would be literally the creation of matter from energy.

The scientific importance of the linear accelerator lies in the fact that it will bombard the heart of the atom with a stream of billion-volt electrons—the light, negatively-charged part of the atom. Other atom smashers, such as cyclotrons, used the heavy, positively-charged particles.

Hansen says that hammering at atoms with such high energy electrons, long a physicist's dream, will open a new field of experimentation in elementary particle physics.

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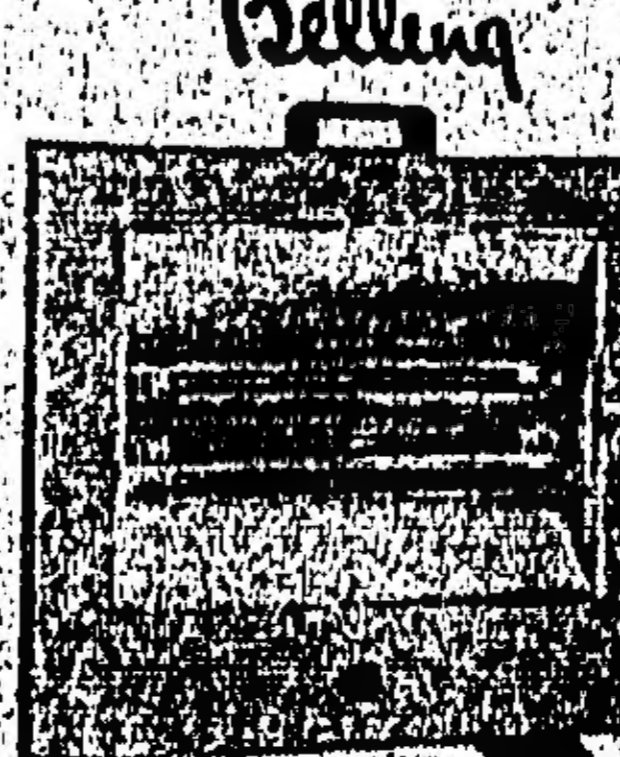
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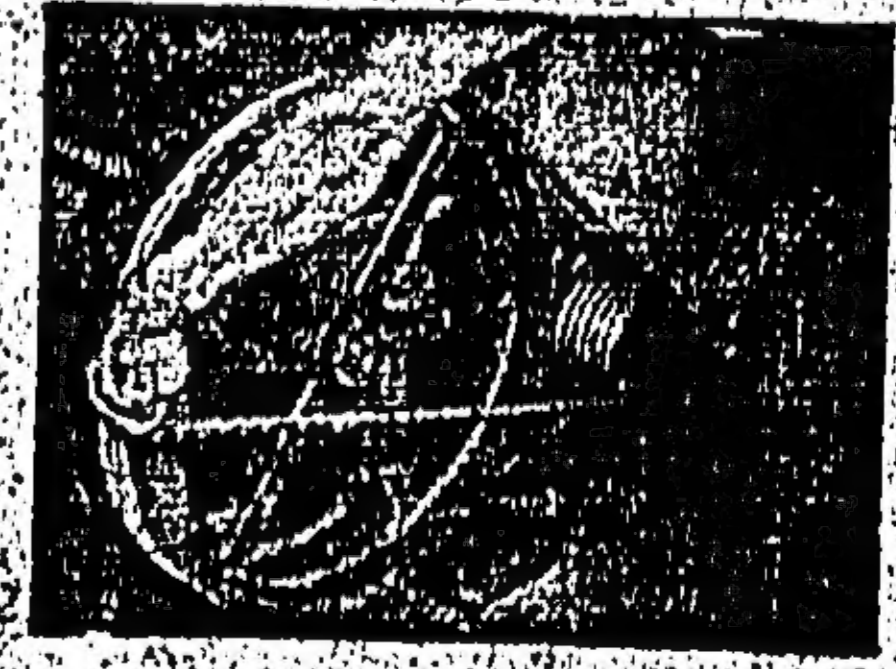
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IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE WEST

SYRIAN CABINET MUDDLE

Damascus, December 27. The Syrian Constituent Assembly today refused to accept the resignation of the President-elect, Hashim Atassi, submitted to it yesterday.

Khaled Azim, a former Prime Minister, is expected to form a new Cabinet tonight.

Army officers, led by Colonel Abix Shishakali, acted power on December 19, after arresting the Chief of Staff, General Sam Hinnawi, who took over in the same way himself only five months earlier.

Khaled Azim was asked last week to form a Cabinet but failed. The President-elect, Atassi, then entrusted Hinnawi with the Premiership.

After being in office for only 24 hours Hinnawi resigned on Sunday night.

No reason was given but reports which reached Beirut in neighbouring Lebanon said that his action was due to censorship and control imposed by the Army on the actions of his Ministers.

Hashim Atassi, who has not yet taken his oath as President after being elected head of the State earlier this month, then also submitted his resignation. —Reuter.

Britons in stranded vessel

Manila, December 28. Two Britons are among the passengers in the American ship Silverwind, which is aground on a shoal off Palawan. They are Miss R. Courts and Major P. E. Terry, who boarded the ship at Calcutta.

The two other passengers on the ship are Americans, L. L. Hall and Mrs. E. S. Lee, who also boarded the ship at Calcutta.

The Luzon Stevedoring Company reported that the first of their tugs reached Royal Captain Shoal, 40 miles west of Palawan, late last night.

The Silverwind grounded there early on December 26. The big sea-going tug Narwhal said the vessel's bow was too hard aground on the reef for a lone tug to pull off. The Narwhal said it would stand by until three other tugs and two lighters arrive from other Philippine points to help it lighten the vessel by removing some cargo. —Associated Press.

FIRST WEDDING IN 2,000 YEARS

Jerusalem, December 27. The first wedding on Mount Zion, Jerusalem, for almost 2,000 years took place today when an inspector of immigrant youth institutions married a girl who had gone through German concentration camps and British camps in Cyprus.

As the Rabbi read the marriage ceremony cold winds blew through broken windows of the vaulted hall of King David's tomb synagogue opened recently as the nearest synagogue to the Walling Wall and the Temple area. —Reuter.

PRISONERS RIOT

Calcutta, December 27. Two prisoners were killed and several others received bullet injuries, when prisoners being carried in a closed police van in North Calcutta suddenly fell upon their guards in an attempt to escape.

The prisoners, who were being carried from Dum Dum to the North Eastern outskirts, to Howrah, in the centre, attempted to snatch rifles from the guards, and in the ensuing scuffle shots were fired.

The driver, heading the shooting within the van drove at top speed to the nearest hospital where the van was opened and the injured admitted. Two of the prisoners were found to be dead. —Reuter.

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Belgrade, December 27.

M. Eduard Kardelj, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, told the National Assembly here today that his country's relations with the United States, Britain and France had recently become better.

He added that there was nothing in them that would influence either the internal or the foreign policy of Yugoslavia.

M. Kardelj, who was reviewing Yugoslavia's foreign policy during the past year, claimed that increased trade relations and loans with the West were making Yugoslavia stronger economically and politically.

Referring to the Cominform dispute, M. Kardelj said that Yugoslavia was prepared to come to an agreement but only on a basis of mutual respect and equality.

The Yugoslav Government does not belong to any bloc, he declared. It was the organ of the Yugoslav people who will not submit to any hegemony regardless of its colour.

The Foreign Minister then continued to review Yugoslavia's foreign policy with various countries.

Italy: He said that there was no reason why Yugoslavia should not have close relations with Italy and claimed that his Government had several times tried to minimise the causes of disagreement between the two nations.

"But when we talk about relations to Italy we must say that Italy should pay more attention to the Slovenes in Italy and give them national rights. However, we expect that this policy will be changed."

Trieste issue

Trieste: "There can be no solution without Yugoslavia's participation. Only these can be the interest of peace and security."

Greece: "We did not hide the sympathies for the Greek Democratic forces nor do we hide them today." He added that for the sake of good relations with Greece, Yugoslavia wished that the alleged "terror" there would stop because "otherwise Greece will remain unstable."

"Our relations with Greece depend very much on the internal situation," the Minister stated.

Germany: M. Kardelj said that Yugoslavia has not recognised either the East or West German Governments "because we consider the country to be occupied." He added that his Government wanted to see Germany united because "we think Germany an important factor in Europe. We shall recognise the Government only after the occupation is over."

M. Kardelj added that Yugoslavia wanted commercial relations with both West and East Germany but it was not responsible for the fact that there was

no formal co-operation with Eastern Germany at present.

The Minister said that Yugoslavia had made every effort to improve economic relations with foreign countries in 1949 and now had them with 46 countries, 24 of which had signed trade agreements.

Pact with Britain

Referring to the trade agreement with Britain signed yesterday, M. Kardelj said that it was on a basis of complete economic reciprocity. He added that Yugoslavia would sign further agreements with Latin America and Turkey.

Referring to the \$26,000,000 loan from the Import-Export Bank of America and the \$25,000,000 loan provided by the World Bank, he said that it made no difference so far to Yugoslavia's economic difficulties, caused by the Cominform blockade.

"We received the loan at the end of this year and so we had to overcome our difficulties ourselves."

Referring to China, M. Kardelj said that in spite of the Cominform attitude to the Chinese Government, he considered the Chinese Revolution a historic event for the whole of humanity.

M. Kardelj ended in a note of defiance against Russia and the Cominform, saying that Yugoslavia would continue her present policy with greater determination than ever before.

"The dogs are barking but the caravan goes on," he declared. —Reuter.

Debate on Kashmir postponed

Lake Success, December 27. The Security Council debate on Kashmir, due to begin today, has been postponed until tomorrow.

A spokesman for General A. G. McNaughton, of Canada, this month's Council President, who has been conducting informal talks with Indian and Pakistani representatives, said that the Indian delegation had asked for the postponement in order to receive communications from his Government.

The spokesman declined to comment on the substance of the communications awaited.

He stressed that the postponement was nothing more than deference to the wishes of the Indian delegation.

Consultations between General McNaughton, Indian and Pakistani delegates had been going on literally hour after hour, including Saturday and Monday. —Reuter.

Poles reject protest by France

Warsaw, December 27. Poland today categorically rejected a verbal protest by the French Ambassador, M. Jean Baele, against the sentence passed by a Polish military court at Wroclaw last week on four French nationals accused of espionage.

The Acting Foreign Minister, M. Stefan Wierbiowski, announced the rejection of the French protest. The findings of the court and the sentences were announced last Friday. —Reuter.

MISSING AIRMEN SAFE

Washington, December 27. Two United States Naval flyers who have been missing for 14 months are being held near Tsingtao in Communist China and are safe and well, according to China Communist reports.

The flyers, Elmer Bender and William Smith, disappeared on a flight from Tsingtao.

The State Department today announced that the Commission Foreign Affairs Bureau at Tsingtao during the first week of December informed the United States Consul, Carl Hawthorne, that the men were safe and well in the largest Communist military base just outside Tsingtao.

"Delay in the receipt of this report was due to lack of radio communications with United States officials at Tsingtao," the State Department explained in a telegram to their next of kin.

The Department Press spokesman, Michael McDermott, announced simultaneously that the United States Consulate at Tsingtao was closed to the public on October 15 and the Consulate staff is now awaiting transportation to Shanghai and eventual departure from China.

The Department said it is trying to get more information about Smith and Bender and to effect their release. The Department did not reveal how the report was transmitted to the United States. It was the Communists' first official admission that they are holding the flyers. —United Press.

TOLL OF JAP EARTHQUAKE

Tokyo, December 28. Damage from Monday's series of earthquakes was estimated by the Japanese National Rural Police today at 1,302,000,000 Yen.

Final figures compiled by the police show the toll as eight dead, one injured, one missing, 103 buildings collapsed, 338 damaged, four bridges destroyed and unestimated damage to power plants, water systems and railroads.

No further damage resulted from two aftershocks last night. Emergency squadrons of police have been withdrawn from the Midechi district, about 85 miles North of the Tokyo-Yokohama area. Welfare workers have made provision for the needy.

Police said, 1,622 persons were affected materially by the quake damage. —Associated Press.

YUGOSLAVIA TO SPEND MORE ON DEFENCE

Belgrade, December 27.

Lieutenant General Ivan Goshnjak, Assistant Yugoslav Defence Minister, announced today that Yugoslavia is about to expend her arms Budget from 25,000 million dinars to 28,000 million this year.

The General said that it was not to maintain an army of 1,000,000 men as Cominform propaganda alleged: the Yugoslav Army remain on a peace footing, but to build up a war industry and make the country more independent.

"It is an illusion to think that a country which does not have its own war industry can have a well-equipped army and, at the same time, remain independent," he said.

"Our leadership has decided to build up our own war industry because we have all the necessary materials at home."

The Minister charged that the Cominform was spreading "lies" about Yugoslav forces in order to make it appear that Marshal Tito remained in power only by means of bayonets and to shake the confidence of the people in Yugoslavia.

The General said that Soviet "sabre rattling" had frightened no one in this country.

The Minister of Interior, Aleksandar Rankovic, asked for a "mass movement" to strengthen Yugoslavia's anti-aircraft and air-raid defences.

In a speech which lasted for more than an hour, Rankovic also announced that the Government will grant an amnesty to more than 7,000 prisoners.

Civil defence

He said that the Cominform had confused the workers of the world with its attacks on Communist Yugoslavia, and emphasised that there are no internal disturbances in Yugoslavia. Over 1,500 persons imprisoned for Cominform sympathies have been released in recent months. Since 1944, Rankovic said, 17,810 prisoners have been set free, of whom 3,463 have been released this year. Besides that, the Government is making preparations to set free an additional 7,305 condemned since the liberation.

Rankovic gave no further details of the amnesty in his speech.

On national security he said: "Up to now, about 500,000 people have been trained and thus included in units of the passive defence (air-raid), but this activity must be made into a mass movement."

He said that special instruction courses and lectures will be organised throughout the country.

Of State security, Rankovic said that he believed the Cominform leaders are "not quite convinced that they could bring Yugoslavia to her knees quickly."

State security

He added: "The methods of our State security will remain human and not bureaucratic. The strength of our state security

lies in the fact that it is struggling for the welfare of the people who support us. The Cominform is very surprised that Yugoslavia could endure for so long." He then quoted statistics to show that crimes in Yugoslavia are on the decrease.

Rankovic concluded his address by declaring that the Cominform campaign again had "failed completely."

Frantisk Leskoshek, Minister of Heavy Industry, was the next speaker. Parliament was convened on Monday to discuss the 1950 budget and other State business. It expires on January 31, 1950.

Leskoshek said that Hungary, Rumania, and the Soviet Union owe Yugoslavia a total of 320,171,000,000 dinars for goods received, while Yugoslavia has paid 424,624,000 dinars in advance to the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries, for which Yugoslavia received nothing. —United Press.

TUC CALL ON BIG PROFITS

London, December 27. The 8,000,000-member Trades Union Congress today called for a thorough Government check on excessive profits in industry to complement its own drive to curb inflation by holding wages down.

In a 5,000-word report on wages policy, the TUC said its General Council would convey to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, its views on "exceptionally high profits which are likely to be made in certain industries as an indirect result of devaluation."

"The General Council are of the opinion that insufficient attention is being by large sections of industry to the need for avoiding excessive profits."

On wages, the General Council made no suggestion for a standard on wage earnings, but expressed the hope that "as productivity increases, the earnings of a large section of work people will be increased." —United Press.

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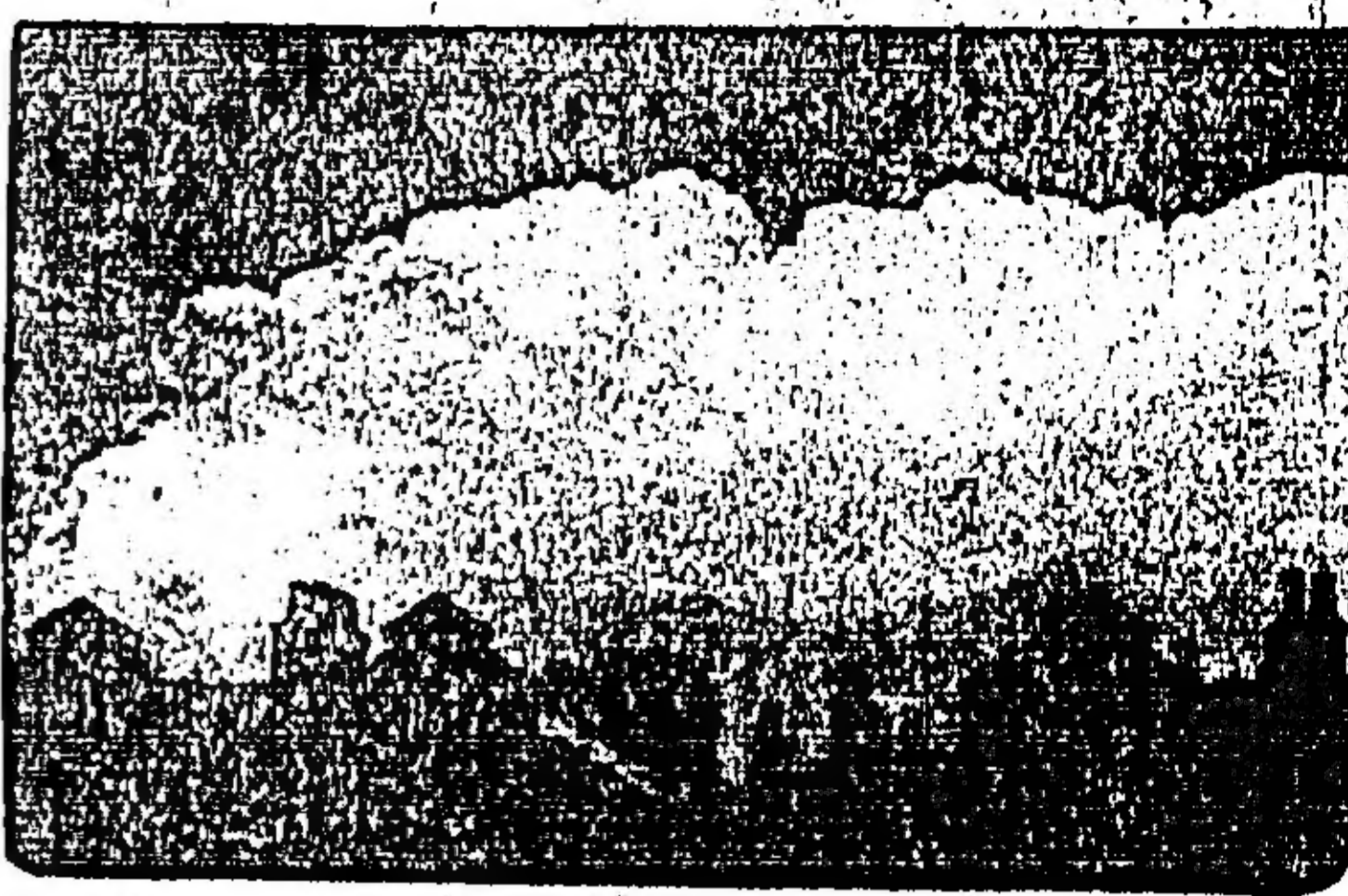
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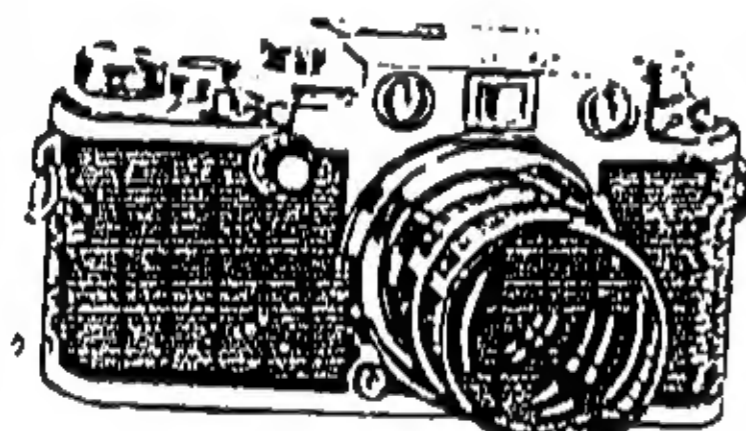
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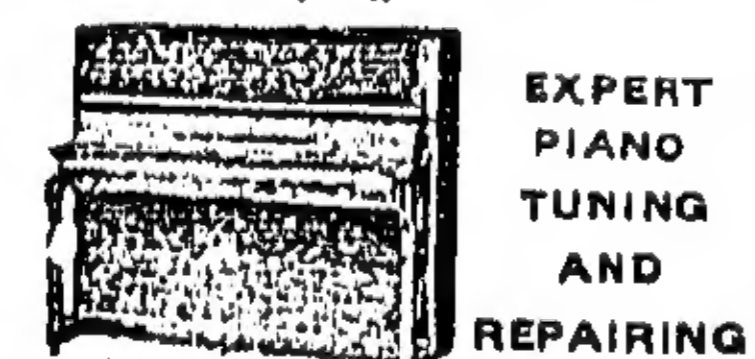
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Senator wants a big reduction in ERP funds

Washington, December 27. The Republican Senate leader, Kenneth Wherry, today advocated a cut of \$551,500,000 in the Marshall Plan appropriation for the next fiscal year instead of the expected \$1,000,000,000 cut.

In a statement to the Press, Senator Wherry said: "Congress should take a firm hold on ECA."

VICAR TESTS A PARABLE

Early, December 28. When the Vicar, Stanley Robinson, tested St. Matthew's "Parable of the Talents" on 15 parishioners, he found they had better business heads than the three servants in the Bible.

To raise Church funds, he gave each a shilling—just as the parable's hero gave one servant five talents, another two, and a third one.

In the parable, two servants doubled their capital and the third brought back only the original talent.

But Vicar Robinson's "good and faithful servants" turned in £11:8:10 on the 15/- investment.

A bank manager spent his "shilling on petrol and changed his friends for lifts."

A tailor bought a zip fastener and made a pouch that sold for £2:5:0.

Others made and sold iron holders, or built up bank little sidelines in cigarettes, razor blades, papers and flowers.

Only one failed: the Church organist, Leslie Pratt, who tried himself for a day for being "beyond of plans" until he owed 14/-.

Associated Press

French budget debate

Paris, December 27. Compromise was in the air tonight as the French National Assembly prepared to continue throughout the night and all day tomorrow the clause-by-clause stage of the 1950 budget debate.

The Finance Minister, M. Maurice Ponsche, this afternoon made tentative offers to each of the Parliamentary groups of further reductions in new taxation and further economies.

The latest Government offer, it was learned, included an agreement to drop the tax on heavy lorries and to substitute for it a tax on wheels.

All contentious clauses on which the Government may want to put a vote of confidence are by agreement with the Assembly and left to be dealt with at the end of the debate.

Whether the Government will survive the debate depended, it was agreed in the lobbies, on whether the Radicals (Liberals) would be content to wrest the maximum concessions from the Government or whether they really wanted to bring about its fall at once.—Reuter.

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Christmas tragedy on the Rhine

Dusseldorf, December 27. Ten people, aged between 16 and 28, were drowned in the Rhine last night when a small boat capsized while crossing the river.

Six others also aboard were rescued.

The party, according to the police, had come from a Christmas celebration and were trying to cross the Rhine in a boat built for eight people only.

Strong currents in the middle of the river caused it to overturn, the police said.

The bodies of the drowned had not been recovered yet.—Reuter.

SWEDES LEAVE PRESS BODY

Stockholm, December 27. The Swedish Journalists' Association today decided to withdraw from the International Organisation of Journalists which has its headquarters in Prague.

Dutch, Norwegian, Belgian and British journalists' unions have already withdrawn from the Organisation.—Reuter.

U.S. TO BEGIN ARMS AID IN FEBRUARY

Washington, December 27. American officials believe United States arms and military equipment will begin moving to or so behind schedule.

This delayed start means that the Administration will have only five months to use the \$1,000,000,000 Congress appropriated to re-arm the Atlantic Pact countries.

Unless the money is spent or earmarked by June 30, when the fiscal year ends, it will go back to the United States Treasury.

Officials expressed confidence, however, that the fund could be spent or allocated within the time limit. Most of the paper work had already been done, they said.

Much of the delay stems from the unexpectedly long discussions with the British Government over explicit terms.

Each of the eight Atlantic Pact countries that are to get American arms must sign separate agreements with the United States specifying how American equipment is to be used in defence of the North Atlantic area.

Britain last week objected to the wording of the draft agreement suggested by the United

States nearly three weeks previously.

Quick action

The British suggested some changes and officials said that these had been more or less accepted in informal talks of the past week.

Formal negotiations with the British on the exact wording of the agreement are expected to begin here within the next few days.

State Department officials are hoping to wind up the British talks quickly since the other seven Atlantic Pact countries are holding up their signatures until the British are ready to sign.

Government officials said the United States had assured the British that they would meet one of their requests—that it be stated clearly in the agreement

that economic recovery will have priority over the mutual aid aspects of the military programme.

In addition, the State Department told Britain informally, it was learned, that it would omit any written ban against sending home-made military equipment outside the North Atlantic area.

Disputed clause

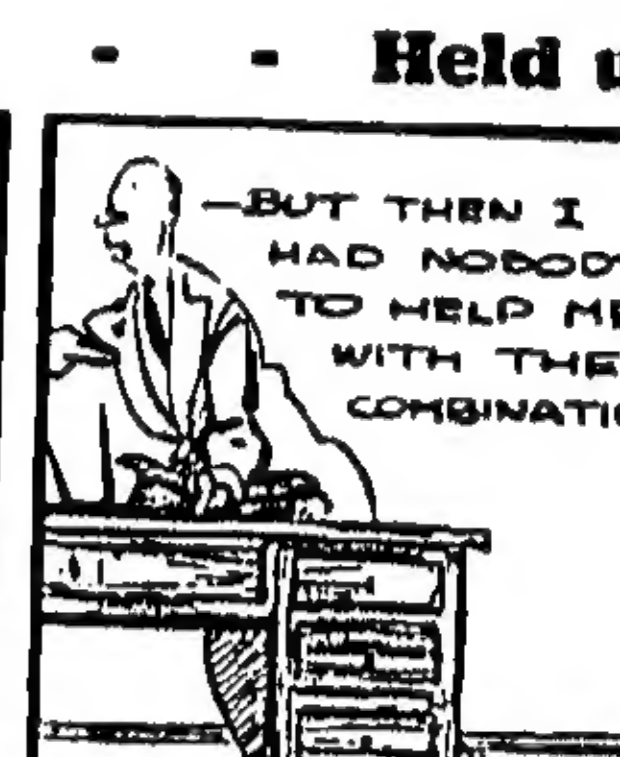
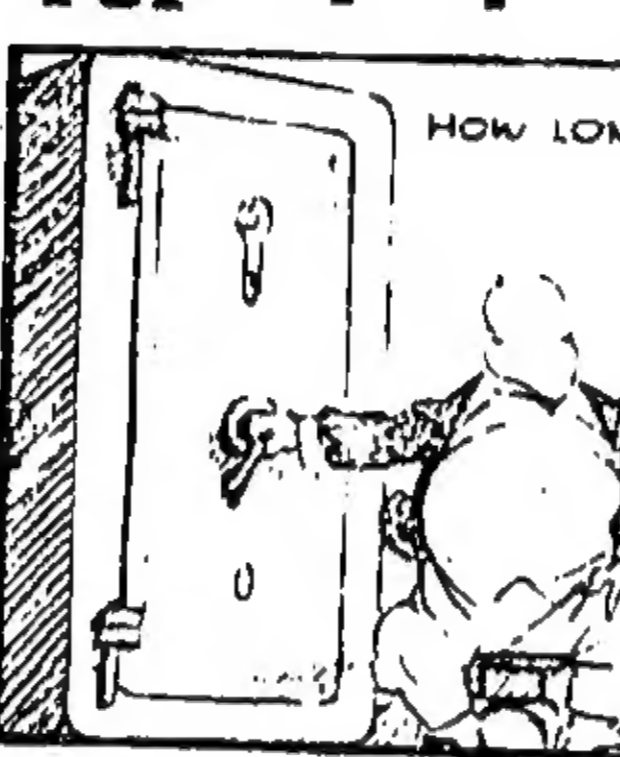
In the original American draft, the United States had suggested that each country agree to consult first with the United States before making any important military shipments outside the North Atlantic area.

Britain thought that this might interfere with sending military equipment, when needed, to such areas as Malaya and the Middle East.

The State Department now has decided to leave out any reference to this at all. It is taking the position that it can always object through its representative on the North Atlantic Council when it believed such shipments are weakening the total defence forces in the North Atlantic area.

Government officials emphasised, however, that the ban against transferring any American military equipment without prior consent from the United States still stands.—Reuter.

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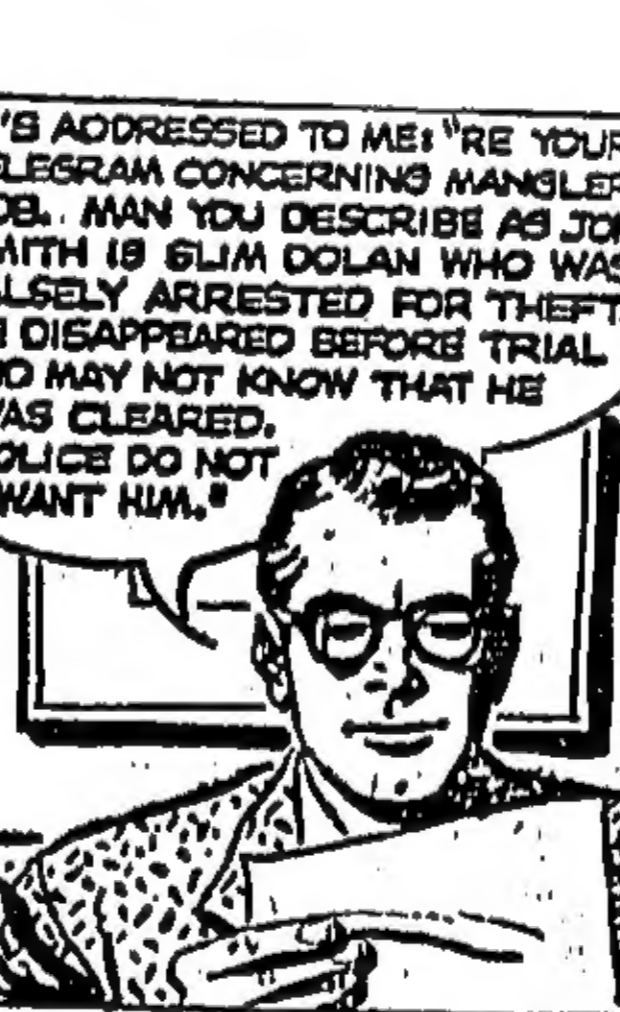
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CHINESE COMMUNIST RACE AGAINST TIME

(By Fred Hampson)

The Chinese Communists are racing with time as the chill blasts of their first Winter in power sweep over China.

They are racing to get their police State type of control consolidated and to end the civil war before internal opposition to their regime stiffens.

Their huge armies, their growing bureaucracy, costs of war and reorganization have imposed upon them the same burdens that crushed the Kuomintang enemies.

Inflation is rampant again. Price controls have broken down. Discontent is widespread in both cities and countryside. Unemployment is at dangerously high levels and is beginning to pull down wages. Worried farmers have been selling rice they ordinarily stockpile against the off season because they are afraid of more "commandeering" by the military. Taxes are high and getting higher.

There are reports already of food shortages in some districts, but the controlled Press and the limitations of travel make it impossible for an impartial observer to get the real facts about food or lack of it. There is still enough food in the cities.

The Communists' New China News Agency, in a dispatch from Peking on December 4, admitted the Reds were in serious economic and financial difficulties. The dispatch, which obviously came from high quarters, warned that price increases in 1949 were inevitable and that the situation would get worse in 1950, which was described as "a crucial year."

But 1950, the dispatch said, would see a balancing of the budget and the beginning of progress.

The dispatch continued with a statement of the Red leader, Mao Tse-tung: "Our situation can be generalized as follows: There are difficulties but there are ways and means and there is hope. In contrast to the free-wheeling propaganda of the Communist Press, which blithely insists that all is well, Mao's statement is a startling warning."

Two courses
I have been in Red China since Shanghai fell to Chen Yi's troops in the last days of May. It seems to me that the Reds, who have had a terrific struggle trying to control the economic situation in the Lower Yangtze, are now attempting to hold power in spite of early reverses in two ways:

1. By intensive, nation-wide indoctrination and by trying to convince a sceptical population that the present troubles merely are growing pains to greatness.

2. By direct military force at danger points.

There is no immediate danger of a major uprising against the Reds, simply because there is no possible way for the opposition to consolidate against them. The Party has, or is perceiving every phase of Chinese life to organize and to watch.

The danger in the Red regime lies rather in the steady pressures of an unhappy people, the resistance and the despair of overburdened peasants who are too short of food to take the long view, the opposition of labour which is tired of promises and pay envelopes which already won't stretch far enough.

It looks to me as though the Reds must hold on by force until their programme has a chance to work, if indeed it ever can be made to work in a nation that was so poor to start with and so over-crowded that it leaves little, if any, margin for experimentation. The realities of the situation are catching up with the Chinese Communists very rapidly indeed.

Economic laws

The Reds held the inflationary line pretty well for their first couple of months in Western China and the Yangtze Valley. Their swift restoration of the railroads enabled them to deliver food to needy points far better than the old Nationalist Government, which always looked to foreign help to meet each succeeding emergency. But summer floods cut the crops, and the armies and the cities drained food from the countryside at a perilous rate once foreign ships stopped calling and that bountiful food source—ECA—disappeared.

Honeymoon over

So far as the rank and file of Chinese—the peasant, the worker, the bourgeoisie, big and little—the honeymoon is over. In the last three months I have asked at least a 100 Chinese of all walks of life to give me their

The laws of economics began to catch up with the Reds early in the autumn. Like the Nationalists, they simply spent more money than they could afford to spend. They increased taxes steeply, both in money and in kind, but my guess today is that they are spending somewhere between one half and two-thirds more than they earn.

So they have had to start printing money.

When the Communists entered Shanghai last May, their dollar was quoted as 300 to one American dollar. When I left Shanghai on December 9, the Shanghai dollar fetched 16,500 Communist dollars and you could get a lot more on the black market if you had a contact or two. It was a little risky, but you sometimes got 20,000 to one.

Back in 1947 you could safely count on the Chinese dollar losing 100 per cent of its value every 60 days. If it was quoted at 20,000 to one on May 1, for example, you could depend on it being at least 40,000 to one by June 1. And we thought the war swift inflation. The Communist dollar was dropping a lot faster than that when I left Shanghai on December 9. My guess then was that it would be about 80,000 to one within a month.

Price units

The Communist money is losing value so fast that prices no longer are quoted in dollars and cents. They are quoted in various price units. When you pay your rent, for example, the rent price unit is multiplied by the exchange rate of the day—which the landlord himself sets—and that's your bill.

The Reds managed to control the rice price—vital commodity of China—during most of the autumn by dumping rice in the cities every time the price jumped. It was becoming apparent late in November that they were stripping the countryside to hold the line in the cities. The farmers themselves aided in his programme voluntarily. The reason for this seemed to be fear by the farmer of further commandeering by the military. The farmers were retaining no surplus on the farms. It appears the farmers preferred to sell their entire crop and buy back what they need rather than leave it where the armies might get it.

In early December the Communist Press announced that the foodstuffs which the Red armies had "borrowed" from the farmers during the crossing of the Yangtze would not all be paid for. It was explained that some of these food loans came from "hoarders"—in brief, that these food loans largely came from bourgeois who have no right to expect repayment. It looked very much as though the Reds simply didn't have the food to pay back. For that matter—rather than repaying any food loans, they are pushing a taxation in kind programme in the countryside trying to get more food.

Rice dumping in the cities began tapering off late in November and the prices jumped terrifically. There were periods of near panic and in Nanking some rice shops were looted. Rice was climbing steadily when I left Shanghai but there still seemed to be enough of it if you had the price.

You can depend on one thing—China can go through a major famine this winter and you will hear very little about it. Impartial newsmen are no longer roaming over China. Travel is difficult and the controlled Press is too busy explaining Marxist blueprints, the lofty goals of Communist policies, or the evil of foreign imperialism to say anything about famine.

Honeymoon over
So far as the rank and file of Chinese—the peasant, the worker, the bourgeoisie, big and little—the honeymoon is over. In the last three months I have asked at least a 100 Chinese of all walks of life to give me their

estimate of the percentage of Chinese who favour the Red regime. The majority of Party members themselves the answers ranged from 60 to 90 per cent against the Reds.

Very few seem to have any faith in the future under the Reds. These are the people who felt that the Kuomintang Government had carried out and crumbled into uselessness and who hoped the Reds would bring new vitality and hope. They seem to have lost hope quickly—perhaps too quickly—but they don't like the Red programme of stifling commerce, alienating the Western nations, regimenting the peasants and workers and launching on a social and industrial programme which they don't think can ever be achieved and which they don't think China is equipped for.

One Chind commented: "They want to throw away what little progress we've made to try for a dream that's too big for us."

Would they rather have the old Kuomintang Government back? Most of them hesitate over that but quite a number answered like this:

"At least I could make a living under the KMT, not a very good living but a living."—Associated Press.

"War crimes evidence suppressed"

Moscow, December 27. "Pravda," the Soviet Communist Party paper, today accused the United States of holding back evidence of Japanese atrocities during the Tokyo war crimes trials. The paper said the Japanese planned to use shells loaded with infected flies and bacteria which they had already tried out against the Chinese, but "the Soviet Union delivered a knock-out blow to the Japanese aggressors."

"Pravda" was commenting on the trial of 12 Japanese germ warfare experts which began on Christmas Day before a Russian Military Court in the USSR-Manchurian border town of Khabarovsk. —Reuter.

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"At least I could make a living under the KMT, not a very good living but a living."—Associated Press.

Reports from Canton

The Communist authorities at Canton have ordered individuals not to store more than a month's supply of rice. The order affects the entire Kwangtung Province. It has been made to facilitate rice supplies to cities. Persons found guilty of hoarding more than a month's needs will be penalized and the surplus rice confiscated.

A general increase of about 20 per cent in the prices of foodstuffs was registered in Canton during the past two days. Inflation is starting to worsen. The People's Bank have started to circulate JPM\$500 and JPM\$1,000 notes.

Barbers in Canton are charging their clients for a haircut at a first grade hairdresser's salon costs eight and half cents of rice—about HK\$2.70.

Through traffic on the Canton-Hankow line will be accepted beginning from January 1. It was officially announced at Canton. The railway bridge near Kungong, North of Canton, has been repaired. When the through line is open, it will be possible to travel direct by railway from Canton to Peking.

Soldiers of the People's Liberation Army have been given the privilege of travelling free of charge at the expense of bus and shipping companies and the railway authorities. The Canton authorities announced that any member of the Army wearing military insignia is entitled to free travel. Previously, Army discipline required soldiers to pay the necessary fees.

A live duck with 30 gold bars in its stomach was confiscated at the Canton railway terminus during the holidays. Its owner was severely reprimanded but not charged. He was attempting to smuggle the gold out of Canton.

A strange sight—regarded as a good omen—caused considerable excitement among Canton's population on Christmas Eve. A bright star was seen within the crescent of the new moon. It disappeared after 40 minutes.

RAIN COMES TO NEW YORK

New York, December 27. New Yorkers today were drenched—but happy. The city, critically short of water, had its heaviest downpour of rain since last Spring. With the rain came heat. It was New Year's Eve. The temperature rose to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Officials said supplies in the city's two big reservoir systems had risen by 611,000,000 gallons. —Reuter.

SHAH AT OPERA

New York, December 27. The Shah of Persia attended a special matinee performance of Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoor at the Metropolitan Opera House today. The matinee was sponsored by the Near East College Association. Lily Pons, appearing for the first time this season at the Metropolitan, was in the title role. —Reuter.

RADIO

Radio Hong Kong broadcasts on a frequency of 845 kilocycles per second and on 933 megacycles per second in the 31 metre band.

H.K.T.

12.30—"Hong Kong Calling"—Programme Summary.

12.35—"Time For Music"—BBC Midland Light Orchestra Conducted by Gilbert Vicker. (RDCTS)

1.15—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.35—"From the Shows."

2.00—Close Down.

4.00—"Hong Kong Calling"—Programme Summary.

6.00—London Promenade Orchestra. John McLaugh (Guest Artist).

6.20—Organ Recital by Arnold Richardson from St. Marks' M. Audley Street. (RDCTS)

6.30—La Demi-Heure Francophone. (Studio)

7.00—World News and News Analysis. (London Relay)

7.15—Sports Review. (Studio)

7.30—"Take It From Here"—With Joy Nichols, Dick Bentley and Jimmy Edwards. (RDCTS)

8.00—"Even the Editorials" (London Relay)

8.10—"It's Dancing Time"—With the Band.

8.40—"At the Opera"—The Beguine arranged by John Galy With Special Arrangement by Frederick Austin. by the Glyndebourne Opera Company.

9.30—City of Birmingham Orchestra. 10.00—Radio News Reel. (London Relay)

10.15—Weather Report, World and Home

10.30—Book Talk by Aileen Decker.

10.50—"Thursday Evening"—A Programme of Continuous Music.

Arranged by Betty Brown. (Studio)

11.00—"Soft Lights and Sweet Music."

11.15—Weather Report, World and Home News from Britain. (Recorded London Relay)

God Save the King.

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ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

JAVA PORTS and MACASSAR

SAILINGS	ARRIVALS
"TITJALENGKA" 8th Jan.	1st Jan.
"TJIBADAK" 19th Jan.	12th Jan.

MANILA

SAILINGS	ARRIVALS
"TEGELBERG" 31st Dec. a.m.	
"TJIKAMPEK" 25th Jan.	
"RUYS" 23rd Feb.	

* Loading 30th Dec. only.

SINGAPORE, PENANG and BELAWAN DELI

SAILINGS	ARRIVALS
"TITJALENGKA" 5th Jan.	1st Jan.
"VAN HEUTS" 12th Jan.	7th Jan.
"TJIBADAK" 19th Jan.	12th Jan.

* Calling Singapore only.

EAST & SOUTH AFRICA & SOUTH AMERICA

SAILINGS	ARRIVALS
"TEGELBERG" 31st Dec. a.m.	
"TJIKAMPEK" 25th Jan.	
"RUYS" 23rd Feb.	
"TJISADANE" 7th Jan.	

* Loading 30th Dec. only.

Calling at Mombasa & L. Marquas direct Transshipment cargo accepted on through B's/L to Dar-Es-Salaam and Zanzibar.

JAPAN

SAILINGS	ARRIVALS
"TEGELBERG" 28th Dec.	30th Dec.
"RUYS" 9th Jan.	9th Jan.
"TJISADANE" 9th Jan.	

Agents: HOLLAND—EAST ASIA LINE EUROPE via MANILA and MALAYA

SAILINGS ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	TO	LOADING
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"LANGLESCOT"	Early Feb.	Mid Jan.	

Transshipment cargo accepted on through B's/L to Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

JAPAN

SAILINGS	ARRIVALS
"RIDDERKERK" 8th Jan.	8th Jan.
"LANGLESCOT" Mid Jan.	Early Feb.

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ARRIVALS

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"CLEO"	NEW YORK & GULF PORTS.	4th Feb.	
"AGATHI"	BALTIMORE, NEW YORK, & PHILADELPHIA.	2nd Half Jan.	
"ANDREAS"	HOUSTON, NEW ORLEANS, & NEW YORK.	1st Half Feb.	

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	LOADING
"CLEO"	MANILA.	6th Feb.
"AGATHI"	-do-	2nd Half Jan.
"ANDREAS"	-do-	1st Half Feb.

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American Reporter	January 12	February 24
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Pioneer Sea	February 15	March 30
Pioneer Tide	February 25	April 9

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FINANCE AND COMMERCE

JAPANESE STAPLE FOOD PRODUCTION

Tokyo, December 27.

Officials in General MacArthur's Headquarters say that staple food production in Japan in 1949 was the highest since the occupation began in 1945.

According to statistics compiled by the Japanese themselves, the total output of staple foods was 14.4 million metric tons in brown rice equivalents.

This represents a slight increase over last year and is second only to the pre-war peak of 1939.

Mark B. Williamson, chief of the Agriculture division in General MacArthur's Headquarters, said:

"At the termination of hostilities of World War II staple food production in Japan was at its lowest level since the turn of the century. The staple crops in 1945 yielded only 9.9 million metric tons, in brown rice equivalent, compared with 10.1-10.4 average of 13,000,000 metric tons and a wartime peak of 14,000,000 metric tons in 1942."

Japan has required food imports to feed its people even in periods of high production. The low 1948 crop alone placed the country's food supply in jeopardy.

"Agriculturists in the Japanese Government and specialists in appropriate staff sections in Occupation Headquarters moved immediately at the beginning of the occupation to stimulate crop production," Mr. Williams said.

"Fertilizer was an urgent problem. The supply had dropped far below Japanese requirements. Domestic production of this item was given a high priority and large amounts were imported. By extraordinary efforts on the part of everyone concerned fertilizer supplies increased each year, until at present the consumption is approaching pre-war levels."

Steady increases

"Steady improvements, more effective control of insects and diseases, and an increase in the supply of other necessary production materials also have aided farmers in increasing production."

"Steady increases in crop yields have resulted from the program initiated. Following the 1946 low, total staple food production jumped to 12.5 million metric tons brown rice equivalent in 1946, remained about the same in 1947, and increased sharply to 14.3 million metric tons in 1948. The 1949 total was the highest since 1939, and was nine per cent above the 1931-40 average."

"Preliminary estimates of the crop reporting service, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, place 1949 staple food production at 14.4 million metric tons, or 1.1 million metric tons above the 1948 crop. This is a slight increase over the 1948 production."

"Rice at 9.8 million metric tons and the combined wheat-barley crops at 2.4 million metric tons respectively are estimated to be the highest since the end of hostilities. Sweet potato production at 1.7 million metric tons, brown rice equivalents, is the second highest on record, exceeded only by the 1948 crop. "White potato production at 430,000 metric tons, brown rice equivalents, is the highest on record, slightly above the previous high of 1946. These estimates are subject to revision with the receipt of later information."

Marked improvement

"The progressive increase in food production, together with substantial food imports, has brought about a marked improvement in Japan's food position," said Mr. Williamson.

"A major share of the credit for this belongs to the farmers of Japan, who are traditionally hard working and who have given their full co-operation in the improvement of the country's food position. The Japanese farmer has proved that he will produce if given the materials for production. The supply of these materials has been steadily increasing, and should continue to increase."

"Farmers and the Government must continue to work together in agriculture to prosper the country. The Government must keep faith with those who till the soil and whose industrial and patriotic contribution to national rehabilitation has been second to none."

other element of society. Thus, the Government should continue to make every effort to insure equitable allocation of quotas and the continued maintenance of a crop-reporting organization free of political pressures. "Production incentives should be provided, consistent with the need for a stable farm economy and food production needs of the country. If these things are done, there is no doubt that farmers will continue to respond unstintingly to the challenge of Japan's requirements."—United Press.

Ziangbe Rubber

The year ended December 31, 1948, was financially a disappointing one for the Ziangbe Rubber Company Limited. The Chairman, Board of Directors, Mr. W. A. Welch, told the annual general meeting of shareholders yesterday that a loss of \$259,222 was suffered. The loss was made up nearly entirely by office expenses in Hong Kong. The total debit balance on the Profit and Loss Account is £1,708, 9, 8, which has been carried forward.

Mr. Welch added that it is not yet possible to present accounts for two subsidiary companies, as it is not yet possible to assess the losses during the war years of 1942-43.

Sal Mingzhi Estate was recovered in 1948 and was in production from July of that year. A considerable sum had to be spent on starting up again. Unfortunately, the estate was attacked in May 1948. This attack was beaten off by the manager and the estate is now producing. This attack had an adverse effect on the labour. "In June the security position became so acute that no more tapping was possible, and as much movable property as possible was taken to safety to Tientsin."

The manager and his subordinates, staff, however, remained on the estate to look after the Company's affairs. The estate was brought into tapping again in August 1949.

Pasawahan Estate was brought into production under great difficulties in November 1948. In January 1949 the manager was kidnapped. He fortunately got away, but turned up about six weeks later. It has been quite impossible to re-occupy this estate since this occurrence. The opening of these Estates has cost a lot of money, and this has not been recovered, as production has not been resumed. Certain payments on the account of insurance have been received, however, and an application has been made to the Reconstruction Bank for help, as the Company's finances are very low, and it is hoped that a substantial loan may be granted.

Bandorjo Estate, the Company's main property, has not been recovered or visited, and no more information about it is to hand, except that it is understood that it had been very extensively damaged.

Present at the meeting were Mr. W. A. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Radcliffe, A. E. Fother (Directors), Mr. G. A. Smith (Secretary), Messrs. F. C. Wade & Co., Ltd., and Shareholders representing 51,300 shares.

INCOME TAX IN JAPAN

Tokyo, December 28.—The Japanese Government is planning to lessen the rates of income tax for the foreigner. The Finance Minister, Mr. Hayato Ikeda, said at a Press conference yesterday.

Mr. Ikeda, however, said foreigners would have to pay the same corporation tax as Japanese. He said the present tax law discouraged the introduction of foreign capital into Japan. Some special measures must be taken to decrease income tax rates for foreigners, or to raise their personal exemption rates.—Reuters.

NOTICE

"HUPH" Arrived Hong Kong 20th December, 1949.

Consignees of cargo arrived per this vessel on which General Average has been declared are hereby notified that the cash deposit now required is 50% on the net arrived value of their goods, and 10% on previously notified.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents, China Navigation Co. Ltd. December 28/1949.

New York Stock Exchange

New York, December 27. The stock market started to settle into lower price ground late today. The decline was not pronounced but a good many leaders were shoved into the minus column. Trading volume was about 1,600,000.

Benquet Consolidated Mining stock was the fifteenth most active issue with 9,900 share changing hands at 1-6/8 unchanged.

Dow Jones averages: Stocks 204.1; 20 Industrials 198.28; 1 Rail 21.23; 10 Utilities 40.95.

Closing quotations: Adams Express 22 1/4, Alaska Juneau 3 1/4, American Can 108, Smelting 54 1/4, Telephone 143 1/4, Tobacco 74 1/4, Waterworks 7 1/4, Anaconda Copper 28 1/4, Aviation Corp. 5 1/4, Baldwin Locomotive 10 1/4, Barnhart 56 1/4, Bendix Aviation 35 1/4, Bethlehem Steel 31, Boeing Aircraft 23 1/4, Borden Co. 49 1/4, Canadian Pacific 13 1/4, Case 39 1/4, Chrysler 65 1/4, Colgate 42 1/4, Commercial Solvents 10 1/4, Corn Products 7 1/4, Du Pont 61 1/4, Eastman Kodak 40 1/4, General Electric 41 1/4, Motors 70 1/4, Goodrich 69 1/4, Goodyear 43 1/4, Homestake Mining 46 1/4, International Harvester 27 1/4, Paper 36 1/4, Tel & Tel 9 1/4, John Manville 47 1/4, Kennecott Copper 50 1/4, Montgomery Ward 53 1/4, National Distillers 22 1/4, Land 37 1/4, New York Central 10 1/4, Packard Motors 3 1/4, Pan American Airways 8 1/4, Pennsylvania RR 16 1/4, Radio Corp. 12 1/4, Remington Rand 11 1/4, Republic Steel 23 1/4, Reynolds Tobacco 38 1/4, Schlumberger 29 1/4, Sears Roebuck 43 1/4, Shell Oil 37 1/4, Socoy Vacum 16 1/4, Southern Pacific 49 1/4, Standard Brands 20 1/4, Oil of Calif. 60 1/4, Oil of N. J. 60 1/4, Studebaker 25 1/4, Union Bag 26 1/4, Carbide 44 1/4, US Rubber 37 1/4, Steel 25 1/4, Lines 15, Westinghouse 31 1/4, Youngstown Sheet & Tube 76 1/4, Gen. Publ. Utilities 10 1/4, American Bantam Car was higher in the curb. Losers included Cities Service and International Petroleum.—Associated Press.

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